FRIDAY
March 24, 2023

BENGALURU
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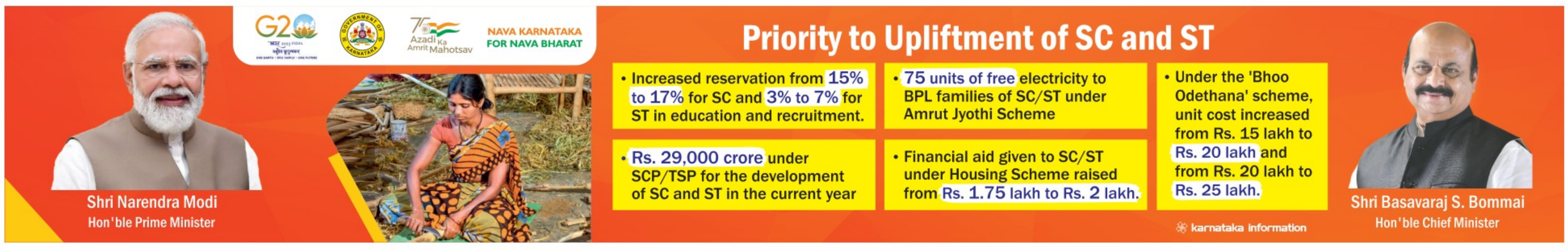


PARLEY

Is India facing a stray dog crisis?

Solutions go beyond euthanasia and sterilisation

OPINION » PAGE 13

ROAD TO FINAL

Mumbai Indians takes on UP Warriorz in Eliminator

SPORT » PAGE 19

India rejects J&J's attempt to extend patent on TB drug

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

In a victory for patients fighting for wider access to the crucial anti-tuberculosis drug Bedaquiline, the Indian Patent Office on Thursday rejected U.S. pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson's attempt to extend its monopoly on manufacturing the drug in India beyond July 2023.

J&J's primary patents on Bedaquiline expire in July, paving the way for generic drug manufacturers such as Lupin and Macleods, among others, to produce Bedaquiline, thus ensuring cheaper and wider access to the drug.

Price of tablets

Currently, Bedaquiline tablets are priced at $400 per six-month treatment course.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Rahul gets two-year jail term in defamation case

Congress to appeal against the Surat court order, as Mr. Gandhi's Lok Sabha membership hangs in the balance; Parliamentary Affairs Minister says legal experts will study the verdict

The Hindu Bureau
SURAT/NEW DELHI

A Surat court on Thursday convicted former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi in a criminal defamation case and awarded him a two-year jail term over his "why all thieves have Modi surname" comment.

Mr. Gandhi was present at the court when the judge passed the verdict. The court suspended the sentence for 30 days, so that Mr. Gandhi can appeal in a higher court. The court has given bail to him on ₹10,000 bond. The Congress has said that it will appeal against the verdict.

Mr. Gandhi had allegedly made the remarks during campaigning for the 2019 parliamentary polls. The criminal defamation case was filed against him by BJP MLA Purnesh Modi, who was earlier president of the BJP unit of Surat city. In his complaint, Mr. Purnesh Modi alleged that Mr. Gandhi while addressing a poll rally in 2019 in Karnataka defamed the entire Modi community with his remark, "How come all the thieves have Modi as the common surname?" Chief Judicial Magistrate H.H. Varma had last week concluded hearing final arguments from both sides. Mr. Gandhi had last appeared before the Surat court regarding the case, filed under Indian Penal Code (IPC) Sections 499 and 500 (dealing with defamation), in October 2021 to record his statement.

Rahul Gandhi arrives at the New Delhi airport, after appearing before a court in Surat, Gujarat. REUTERS

Thursday's developments have put a question mark over Mr. Gandhi's Lok Sabha membership from Wayanad. In the landmark 2013 *Lily Thomas v Union of India* judgment, the Supreme Court had clearly spelt out that a lawmaker stands immediately disqualified on attracting a sentence of two years or more unless the conviction is stayed by a higher court. The top court had struck down Section 8 (4) of the Representation of the People's Act as "unconstitutional" that provided a three-month window to file an appeal and continue as a lawmaker until the case is disposed of.

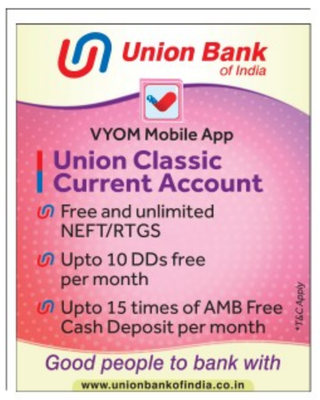
CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14
CONGRESS LEADERS MEET
» PAGE 15

NEARBY

Staff of State RTCs call off strike plan

BENGALURU
After the High Court of Karnataka restrained the Sarige Nigamagala Noukarara Samana Manaskara Vedike from going on strike, the vedike announced withdrawal of the strike. » Page 6

METROPLUS » PAGE 9



Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Registration of electric vehicles (EV) in India in 2023 calendar year

2.78 In lakh. Minister Nitin Gadkari informed the Lok Sabha that electric vehicle registrations in India rose to 10.20 lakh in 2022 from 3.29 lakh in 2021. Data on Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh is included as they are in the process of migrating to the Vahan portal. PTI

Professionals heading back to office, despite hybrid work culture

78 In percentage. A report by LinkedIn revealed that 8 in 10 professionals in India prefer to go to their offices to socialise and bond with their colleagues. About 86% of them said that they feel positive about going back to their offices, compared to a year ago. PTI

Sri Lanka imports eggs from India to ensure food security

2 In million. The Trade Ministry allowed the use of Indian-origin eggs only in the bakery industry after necessary quality checks. In January, the Animal Production and Health Department had declined to approve egg imports from India or Pakistan as both countries saw bird-flu outbreaks in past six months. PTI

African Union urges funding for Somali peacekeeping force

90 In $ million. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, the AU commissioner for political affairs, peace and security, said that more than 19,600-strong AU force will not be able to function properly and help the Somalis unless the current funding gap is filled. AP

Tear gas, riot-control weapons cause injuries to people

1.19 In lakh. A report by the Physicians for Human Rights and International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations said since 2015, over one lakh people were injured by tear gas, while 2,000 suffered injuries from "less lethal" projectiles. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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India's push for semiconductors

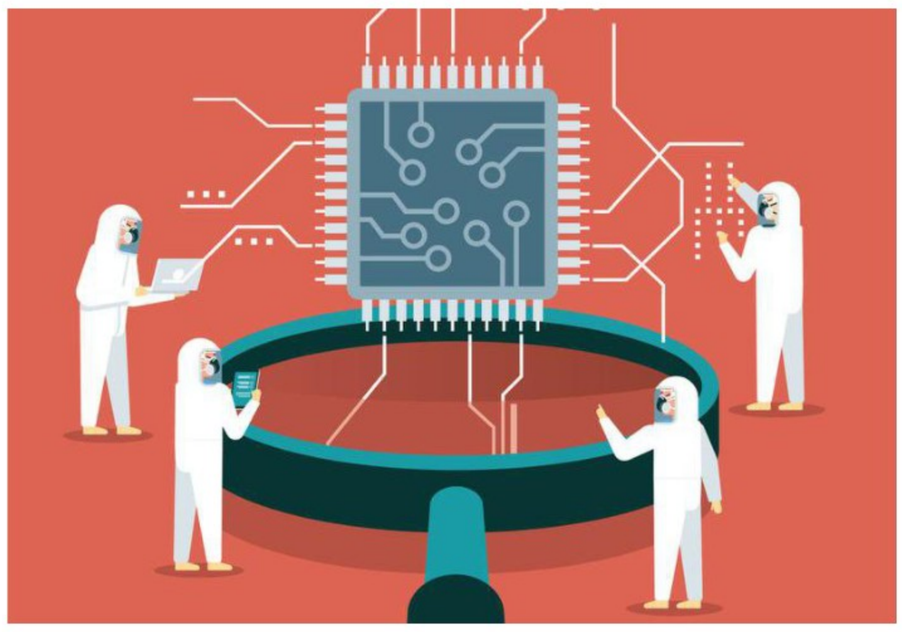
Why is the Indian government encouraging manufacturing semiconductors in the country? What advantages do India hold? Will the government's semiconductor ambition be limited?

EXPLAINER

Aroon Deep

The story so far:

The Union Government has disbursed around ₹1,645 crore in performance-linked incentives (PLI) for electronics manufacturers so far, as part of its efforts to bring in more of the electronics supply chain to India. The push for semiconductors, or integrated circuits, is far more pressing now, as these chips are found in practically every modern electrical appliance and personal electronics devices. More and more nations are trying to turn away from China's dominance in the space, following geopolitical pressures to de-leverage themselves from supply chain vulnerabilities.



GETTY IMAGES

Why is the government encouraging semiconductor manufacturing?

Semiconductor fabrication units, or fabs, turn raw elements such as silicon into integrated circuits that are fit to be a part of practically all electronic hardware in the world. Fabs are highly capital-intensive undertakings, costing billions of dollars for large facilities.

Semiconductor fabs of today may still be building circuits, but they require highly reliable and high-quality supply of water, electricity, and insulation from the elements, reflecting the high degree of precision, cost and capital needed to make the sophisticated circuits.

Countries have spotted strategic value in cornering segments of the value chain for fabs, even as the sophistication and capital needed to run them have climbed to historic highs. China pulled ahead of Taiwan last year, in terms of share of global sales from fabs, according to a report by the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA).

It's not just India that is wary of this dominance. The U.S. passed the CHIPS Act last August, providing upwards of $280 billion in subsidies and investments to manufacturers opening fabs and making semiconductors in the U.S. This has been combined with restrictions on the Chinese semiconductor industry.

Are fabs opening in India?

The government's Invest India agency estimates that electronics manufacturing as a whole will be worth $300 billion by the financial year 2025-26.

While facilities for assembling finished products have been steadily growing in number, fabs for making chipsets and displays, which are crucial parts of the manufacturing process for many electronics, are rarer. Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the first semiconductor manufacturing fab would be announced in the coming weeks.

Can semiconductors and finished products both be made in India?

The SIA, which represents the bulk of semiconductor manufacturers in the U.S. and elsewhere, said in a report with APCO Worldwide in February that India should lean on its strength in the electronics manufacturing value chain.

So-called "foundry companies", which turn silicon into semiconductors, require investments upwards of 35% of revenues, the SIA warned, and entry costs run into billions of dollars. But companies that specialise in Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) are less expensive to set up, and generate better margins, the SIA pointed out. The OSAT set-ups take care of the less capital-intensive parts of chipmaking, such as assembling the precise components that have already been manufactured, and running specialised tests to approve them.

A problem with many chip facilities in the traditional sense is that they tend to be captive units of large companies. While Foxconn's assembly facilities are being touted as creating several jobs and inviting investment into India, some of its most valuable facilities globally are dedicated to building Apple devices, which account for a fraction of handsets sold in India.

What other advantage does India have?

A large part of semiconductor manufacturing involves design and intellectual labour. India has an advantage here, as a large portion of semiconductor design engineers globally are either Indian or Indian-origin; chipmaking firms such as Intel and NVIDIA have large facilities in India that are flush with Indian talent working on design problems.

This is an advantage as China is losing control over in the face of sanctions and an ageing population.

"Without a sustainable pipeline of high calibre talent, China's goals for the semiconductor sector, especially in terms of further indigenising the industry, will be not achievable," Dr. Denis Simon, a Clinical Professor of Global Business and Technology at the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School said in a testimony to the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

Will India's semiconductor ambition be limited?

The opening of display and semiconductor fabs is one of the strategic and economic goals of India's electronics manufacturing incentive programmes, and breaking new ground on ambitious plans connected to popular brands such as Apple is something that the Union government and States are equally eager to accomplish.

The government appears to be developing the parts of the ecosystem that have promise for sustainable growth and fiscal feasibility.

Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar said at the Raisina Dialogue earlier this month that the electronics value chain would have to be an international undertaking among nations with common values to be effective.

That is, if like-minded nations each specialise in different aspects of the semiconductor and electronics manufacturing process, and work together on distribution, that still solves the geopolitical problem of Chinese dominance without simply monopolising power with a different country. No country should "delude" themselves into thinking that they will be the "king of the hill," Mr. Chandrasekhar said.

THE GIST

- The push for semiconductors, or integrated circuits, is far more pressing now, as these chips are found in practically every modern electrical appliance and personal electronics devices. More and more nations are trying to turn away from China's dominance in the space, following geopolitical pressures to de-leverage themselves from supply chain vulnerabilities.
- While facilities for assembling finished products have been growing in number steadily, fabs for making chipsets and displays, which are crucial parts of the manufacturing process for many electronics, are rarer.
- A large part of semiconductor manufacturing involves design and intellectual labour. India has an advantage here, as a large portion of semiconductor design engineers globally are either Indian or Indian-origin.

Why is India's CAMPA at odds with new IPCC report?

Why is afforestation contested in India? What does CAMPA play? Why are natural ecosystems important?

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

A report released on March 20, that originates in the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a U.N. expert body, states that not degrading existing ecosystems in the first place will do more to lower the impact of the climate crisis than restoring ecosystems that have been destroyed – a finding that speaks to an increasingly contested policy in India that has allowed forests in one part of the country to be cut down and 'replaced' with those elsewhere.

Why is afforestation contested?

India has committed to adding "an additional (cumulative) carbon sink of 2.5-3 GtCO2e through additional forest and tree cover by 2030", as part of its climate commitments to the U.N.

Afforestation is also codified in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), a body chaired by the Environment Minister.

When forest land is diverted to non-forest use, such as building a dam or a mine, that land can longer provide its historical ecosystem services nor host biodiversity.

According to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the project proponent that wishes to divert the land must identify land elsewhere to afforest, and pay for the land value and the afforestation exercise. That land will, thereafter, be stewarded by the forest department.

Why does CAMPA matter?

The money paid sits in a fund overseen by the CAMPA. As of 2019, the fund had ₹47,000 crore.

The CAMPA has come under fire for facilitating the destruction of natural ecosystems in exchange for forests to be set up in faraway places.

Why do natural ecosystems matter?

Research has found that nature ecosystems sequester more carbon.

"Creating single-species plantations in, say, Haryana does not really come close to a natural sal forest lost to a development project in, say, Central Indian forests in terms of biodiversity, local livelihoods, hydrological services, and sequestered carbon," Sharachchandra Lele, distinguished fellow in Environmental Policy and Governance, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bengaluru, told *The Hindu* by email.

"Of these, sequestered carbon recovers fastest under fast-growing plantations, but even then, it will take many decades before it approaches the level of carbon sequestered in a natural forest," Dr. Lele said.

"Within the climate action ecosystem, [the report's finding] also means that climate action, such as technologies to combat climate change, renewable energy farms, etc., should not come at the cost of natural ecosystems," said Neha Sinha, a conservation biologist.

How do ecosystems compare to renewable energy?

The IPCC report also found that the sole option (among those evaluated) with more mitigating potential than "reducing conversion of natural ecosystems" was solar power and that the third-highest was wind.

But many solar parks in India have triggered conflicts with people living nearby because they limit land-use and increase local water consumption.

A 2018 study published in *Nature Ecology & Evolution* also found that wind farms in the Western Ghats had reduced the "abundance and activity of predatory birds, which consequently increased the density of lizards".

However, the IPCC report also noted that "reducing conversion of natural ecosystems" could be more expensive than wind power, yet still less expensive than "ecosystem restoration, afforestation, [and] restoration", for every GtCO2e.

THE GIST

- India has committed to adding "an additional (cumulative) carbon sink of 2.5-3 GtCO2e through additional forest and tree cover by 2030", as part of its climate commitments to the U.N.
- The CAMPA has come under fire for facilitating the destruction of natural ecosystems in exchange for forests to be set up in faraway places.
- The IPCC report also found that the sole option with more mitigating potential than "reducing conversion of natural ecosystems" was solar power.

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Whitefield line: Ahead of inauguration, names of six metro stations changed

Name of K.R. Puram station has been changed to Krishnarajapura (K.R. Pura); officials claim names changed so that passengers can easily identify the station with a local name

Suchith Kidiyoor
BENGALURU

Ahead of the inauguration of the K.R. Puram to Whitefield Namma Metro line, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has decided to modify the names of six out of the 12 stations that will be thrown open to the public on March 26.

Metro officials said the changes in the names have been made for the benefit of passengers to easily identify the station with a local name.

Most significantly, the name of the K.R. Puram station has been changed to Krishnarajapura (K.R. Pura). It is said that BMRCL had received a requisition from Kannada organisations to change the name to Krishnarajapura.

Krishnarajapura is an inter-change station; it will help people travel towards Whitefield and Baiyappanahalli once the entire Baiyappanahalli to Whitefield line gets operational. In future, after the ORR-airport (Central Silk Board to Kempegowda International Airport) line opens, people can also use the station to travel towards the airport and Central Silk Board, Electronics City or Jayadeva Hospital.

A senior official of BMRCL said: "Changes in the names of stations were brought in after getting clearance from the State government. In the case of K.R. Puram, the new name is Krishnarajapura. This is because, in government records too, the local name is Krishnarajapura".

The other changes are Mahadevapura to Singayyappanapalya, Hoodi Junction to Hoodi, Kadugodi to Kadugodi Tree Park, Channasandra to Hopefarm Channasandra, and Whitefield to Whitefield (Kadugodi).

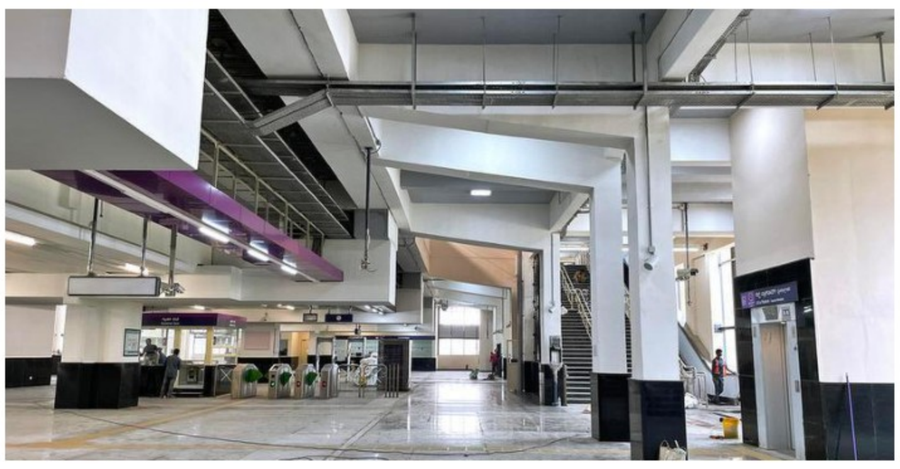
This is not the first time that BMRCL has changed the names of stations on the extended Purple Line, built under Phase II of Namma Metro.

A few years ago, BMRCL changed the names of many stations that were mentioned in the detailed project report (DPR). For example, Seetharamapalya was referred to as Visvesvaraya Industrial Area, and Nallurhalli used to be Vydehi Hospital.

On March 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to open the 13-km line from K.R. Puram to Whitefield. The line will be open for public use from March 26.

BMRCL will run five trains on the line with a frequency of 10 minutes, and the time taken to travel between two destinations will be 23 minutes.

The 2-km line from Baiyappanahalli to Krishnarajapura is likely to open by mid-year. Between the two stations, a new station – Benniganahalli (previously known as Jyotipuram) - will be opened.



On March 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to open the 13-km line from K.R. Pura to Whitefield. The line will be open for public use from March 26. SUDHAKARA JAIN

New names for metro stations

Existing name	New name
K.R. Puram	Krishnarajapura
Mahadevapura	Singayyappanapalya
Hoodi Junction	Hoodi
Kadugodi	Kadugodi Tree Park
Channasandra	Hopefarm Channasandra
Whitefield	Whitefield (Kadugodi)

Source: BMRCL

'Second Cubbon Park will come up near Yelahanka'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Revenue Minister R. Ashok on Thursday said the government will develop "the second Cubbon Park" on 184 acres of land near Yelahanka.

A Cubbon Park-like green environment will come up on land spread across the villages of Bettahalasur, Sondappanahalli, and Kadiganahalli near Yelahanka. "The land has been handed over to the Horticulture Department. The park will be named after Bengaluru founder Kempe Gowda," Mr. Ashok told presspersons here.

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TENDER ALERT

1)E-Tender Call Notice No.CPC-58/2022-23: Bids invited under single stage two envelope system from reputed EPC/Turnkey contractors for Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of the work (i) Diversion of 220kV Mendhasal-Atri DC Line from Loc No-510 to Loc No.518 due to construction of proposed 132kV (Khurda-Mendhasal) S/C Line in between Location No.514 to 515 and (ii) Diversion of 132kV Khurda-Mendhasal SC line (HTLS Conductor-ACCC casablanca) from Loc. No.113 to 117 due to Construction of proposed Corridor of Khurda Bypass Road on NH-57 by NHAI on Turkey Contract Basis under Deposit Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs.4.41 Crore.

Complete set of bidding documents are available on:**www.tenderwizard.com/OPTCL** portal and OPTCL's official website: **www.optcl.co.in**.

HIPR-71/2022-23
CAD-5252 OIPR-04011/11/0196/2223

GENERAL INFORMATION TO PUBLIC

This is to inform that the Income Tax Department has opened a Control Room which is functioning 24X7 hours till the Date of Polling, exclusively for upcoming Karnataka Legislative Assembly Election–2023. Any, complaint regarding distribution of cash, freebies or any inducement by any person or parties can be shared with the department by contacting the below mentioned phone numbers or through the e-mail. The names and details of the persons who are sharing information will be kept confidential. All citizens are requested to make use of this facility and share the genuine information.

Toll Free Number : 1800-425-2115
Telephone Number : 080-22861126
Fax Number : 080-22866916
Mobile Numbers : 82774 22825
(with WhatsApp) : 82774 13614
E-mail: cleankarnatakaelection@incometax.gov.in

Addl. Director of Income Tax (Inv), Unit-2,
3rd Floor, C.R Building Annexe,
Queen's Road, Bengaluru – 560 001

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **MRS. PYDIMALLA MAHALAKSHMI** W/o. Mr. Oswald Jasmith N is are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **SRI. RAJU SINGH** S/o.Late. Moti Singh, **SRI. AMOL KUMAR.T** S/o. Sri. Tukaram, **SRI. RAJENDRA** S/o.Sri. Ullurappa, and **Sri. VIJAY KUMAR.V** S/o. Sri. Venkatappa N. Any person/s, Financial Institution, Bank, Company etc objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of this public notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property being Site No.2, Comprised in Sy.No.102/4 (Old No. 55/P10) Situated at: MARASANDRA Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk Measuring East to West: 40 Feet & North to South : 30 Feet, In all totally Measuring 1200 Sq feet, and bounded on the: East by : 30 Feet Road; West by :Remaining Portion of same Property in Sy.No.102/4; North by: Site No.1; South by: Site No.3;

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 7204863700

Gadag Betegeri City Municipal Council Office District: Gadag State: Karnataka
Phone No.: 08372-259932 e-mail : itstaff.ulb.gadag@gmail.com
No. GBCMC/A.D./CR/Tender/2022-23 Date: 18.03.2023

Short-Term Tender Notification (Only Through e-Procurement Portal)

Short-Term Tender is invited through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999-2000 as per Act 2000 Rules subject to Standard Tender Document Rules for purchase of Vehicle Machinery related to Solid Waste Management under Gadag-Betageri 15th Finance Scheme Grant for the year 2022-23 and eligible suppliers can submit Tender through e-procurement portal website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sl. No.	Indent Number	Details of Tender	Tender Amount Rs. In lakhs	E.M.D. in Rs.
1	DMA/2022-23/ IND14961	Supply of 3.3 CuM mini tipper vehicles to the Gadag-Betageri CMC	**55.43**	**1,11,000.00**
2	DMA/2022-23/ IND14956	Supply of Tractor Engine with high raised trailer vehicles for Gadag Betgeri CMC.	**30.00**	**75,000.00**

Tender Schedule Dates under e-procurement system are as below (1) Date of Pre-Bid Meeting : **23.03.2023** at 11.00 AM (2) Last date for submission of Tender : **27.03.2023** up to 4.00 PM (3) Date of opening Technical Bid : **29.03.2023** after 11.00 AM (4) Date of opening Financial Bid : **31.03.2023** after 11.00 AM

DIPR/Gadag/KSMCA/801/2022-23

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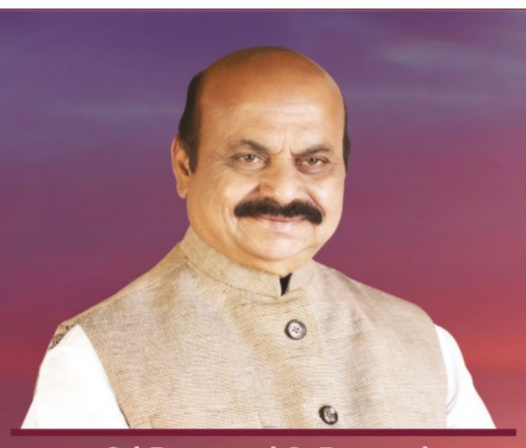

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri S.R. Vishwanath, Hon'ble Chairman, BDA and MLA, Yelahanka Assembly Constituency, **Sri G. Kumar Naik,** IAS, Commissioner, BDA & **Dr. A. Lokesh,** KSAS, Finance Member, BDA participating in a programme.

Name of the Project	Type of Flat	No. of Flats Available	Carpet Area in Sq. Ft.	Proposed Allotment Rate (in Rs)	Initial Deposit to be paid with the Application	
				Basic Price General S.C./ S.T./ Category-1 and others	General Category and others	S.C./S.T./ Category-1
Nagarabhavi Residential Project (Sy.No. 103) RERA No. PRM/ KA/ RERA/1251/ 446/PR/ 230125/ 005664	3 BHK	120	1247.00	1,04,00,000/-	12,48,000/-	5,20,000/-

Nagarabhavi 103 Residential Project		Price
	Corner Site Price	**1,04,00,000/-**
1st Floor	106,108,109 & 111	1,04,00,000/-
2nd Floor	206,208,209 & 211	1,04,00,000/-
3rd Floor	306,308,309 & 311	1,04,00,000/-
4th floor	406,408,409 & 411	1,04,00,000/-
5th floor	506,508,509 & 511	1,04,00,000/-
6th floor	606,608,609 & 611	1,04,50,000/-
7th floor	706,708,709 & 611	1,05,00,000/-
8th floor	806,808,809 & 811	1,05,50,000/-
9th floor	906,908,909 & 911	1,06,00,000/-
10th floor	1006,1008,1009 & 1011	1,06,50,000/-

Nagarabhavi 103 Residential Project		Price
	Premium Flats	
1st Floor	105, 107, 110,112	1,05,00,000.00/-
2nd Floor	201,202,203,204,205,207,210,212	1,05,00,000.00/-
3rd Floor	301,302,303,304,305,307,310,312	1,05,00,000.00/-
4th floor	401,402,403,404,405,407,410,412	1,05,00,000.00/-
5th floor	501,502,503,504,505,507,510,512	1,05,00,000.00/-
6th floor	601,602,603,604,605,607,610,612	1,05,50,000.00/-
7th floor	701,702,703,704,705,707,710,712	1,06,00,000.00/-
8th floor	801,802,803,804,805,807,810,812	1,06,50,000.00/-
9th floor	901,902,903,904,905,907,910,912	1,07,00,000.00/-
10th floor	1001,1002,1003,1004,1005,1007,1010,1012	1,07,50,000.00/-
	Super PREMIUM Flats	
1st Floor	101	1,31,96,224/-
	102	1,19,04,602.77/-
	103	1,24,60,927.61/-
	104	1,21,72,652.05/-

Note:
1. The cost of each flat has been mentioned separately in BDA website and cost of the flat has to be paid accordingly.
2. The amounts to be paid for water and electricity connections is not included in the cost of the flat. Amount to be paid as per the zone in which the flats are being constructed and has to be paid separately before registration.
3. Allottees have to pay the Goods and Services Tax separately as applicable at the time of registration.
4. Allottees will have to pay an additional Rs. 2.50 lakhs for the covered car parking place available, one per each flat and allotment of car parking place of their choice will be made on priority to those who applied first.
5. Allottees will have to pay maintenance charges for 24 months in advance before registration of the flat and registration will be done after payment.

Fees fixed for Registration and Application.

Application Fees	Application Fees for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes Rs. 400/-
Application Fees	General and other categories Rs. 600/-
Registration Fees	Registration Fees for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes Rs. 200/-
Registration Fees	General and other categories Rs. 400/-

Eligibility Criteria
1. Flats will be allotted on priority to those who applied first. Differently Abled persons will be given a rebate of 5% in the rates or Rs. 1 lakh whichever is less.
2. Only those who have completed 18 years of age as on the date of application are eligible to apply.
3. Applicant should be a domicile of Karnataka for minimum 2 years prior to the date of registration.

Note: The requirement of domicile is relaxed in the cases of the officers belonging to All India Services whose services are allotted to the Karnataka State and who are domiciled in the State of Karnataka for not less than 2 years immediately prior to the date of registration and in the case of the serving soldiers who are either serving in the State or outside the State of Karnataka.
4. An applicant whose wife/husband or the dependent children, parents or brothers/sisters have been allotted a site or a house by the erstwhile CITB, the Bangalore Development Authority or a Co-operative Society registered under the Karnataka Co-operative Societies Act, 1959 (Karnataka Act 11 of 1959) or any such other Authority within the Bangalore Metropolitan Area shall not be eligible to apply for allotment of a flat against this notification.

Procedures and Terms and Conditions:
1. The Registration form and application form may be obtained from BDA Head Office after paying the specified fees at Canara Bank, BDA Branch and submitting the Challan or fees can be submitted in online also and details of the fees along with payment of initial deposit and challan submitted with application at the flat allotment section of the Authority for distribution of application forms.
2. Eligible applicants should retain the registration slip safely and return it to BDA upon allotment. Those who have already registered their names for allotment of flats need not register again. The old registration card can be used to submit the application this time.
3. Filled application with the fixed initial deposit should be submitted within the fixed time at the flat allotment section of the Authority.
4. Initial deposit should be in the form of a crossed DD/Banker's Cheque or Pay Order drawn in favour of "Commissioner, Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore" or online/ RTGS/ NEFT.
5. Applications without initial deposit and other necessary documents and unsigned and incomplete applications will not be considered for allotment. Documents should be Certified by the designated Officers / Institutions as mentioned in the application.
6. No interest will be paid for the initial deposit made by the applicant. The initial deposit will be adjusted towards the total cost of the flat in case of successful applicants; and the initial deposit with regard to unsuccessful applicants will be refunded without interest.
7. The BDA reserves the right to reduce or increase the number of flats without assigning any reason.
8. If any information given by the applicant is found to be false or misleading, the allotment of flat shall stand cancelled and the registration fee and the initial deposit paid shall be forfeited.
9. If the Allottees who have been allotted a flat request for cancellation of allotment and return with original documents, 10% of initial deposit paid will be deducted and returned.
10. Flat once allotted will not be exchanged for another flat for any reason whatsoever.
11. Application should be obtained by submitting the challan for payment of application and initial deposit at the flat allotment section, Head Office. Copy of Aadhar Card and Pan Card should be submitted along with the filled application and later steps will be taken for allotment of the flat no. reserved by them through online. Instead of online application can be obtained directly at the flat allotment section, Head Office of the Authority after payment of application fee and registration fee at Canara Bank in the premises of the Authority. Available flat will be reserved by the authority in online and steps will be taken for allotment.
12. For Solar water connection Rs. 45,000/- is to be paid separately. Only for allottees of 14th floor.

For further details visit www.housing.bdabangalore.org
For Flat Allotment Queries: Mob. 8884138555, Land line: Ph No. 080 23442275, For Online Queries: Mob. 9353323821, Engineer Mob. 9448833214

Bangalore Development Authority
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.

M BG-BGE

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A still from the show, *Abbott Elementary.*

Gentrification on-screen: evolution of black sitcoms in America

Shows such as *The Ms. Pat Show*, *The Upshaws* and *Abbott Elementary* are raking in viewers, thanks to the proliferation of streaming platforms across the globe and the push for diversification in Hollywood that is gaining traction

Tamma Moksha

Watching the teachers of Willard R. Abbott Elementary lament over the public education system in America, while dissing colleagues who dislike pizza, has become a weekly ritual for many television connoisseurs like me. *Abbott Elementary*, Quinta Brunson's situational comedy, is a masterclass in mockumentary filmmaking that touches upon the issue of race in modern-day America, while featuring a mostly black cast. However, this is not the African-American community's foray into the genre. The Emmy-winning show is a product of decades of rich black sitcoms that dominated television screens in the 1980s and 1990s. While the genre has suffered setbacks in the aughts, a revival seems to be on the cards.

Minstrel shows

The rise of black sitcoms can be traced back to the early 19th century when minstrel shows were the foremost medium of entertainment in America. Blackface minstrelsy became a uniquely American form of theatre which involved mostly white actors donning blackface make-up to represent African-Americans on the stage, while showcasing the community as lazy, dim-witted and cowardly. Each show consisted of dance and music performances, comic skits, and variety acts. This soon made space for black-only minstrel troupes that toured the country while reinforcing the racial stereotypes on stage and by the mid-19th century, this form of theatre became America's national art form.

But, in the wake of the American Civil War, the performances dwindled and new forms of theatre such as Vaudeville took over. The Harlem Renaissance in the early 20th century also helped alter people's perceptions of black culture. But minstrelsy did not go out of business until the mid-1970s. Partaking in minstrel shows opened the entertainment industry to African-American performers with many famous actors, composers, and singers such as W.C. Handy, Ida Cox, Ma Rainey, Ethel Waters, and Butterbeans and Susie getting their first break in these shows.

Reinforcing racial stereotypes, perpetuated by these shows on television, helped television networks garner ratings; *Amos 'n' Andy*, a sitcom on CBS in the 1950s is one such example. The negative stereotypes promoted in the show got the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) to protest its airing and soon the network was forced to cancel it.

While black sitcoms continued sparsely on networks, the genre saw a boom in the early 1970s with shows such as *Sanford and Son*, *Good Times* and *The Jeffersons* where themes of upward mobility and healthy family dynamics were stressed upon. However, racism continued to plague the writers' rooms and sets.

Actor John Amos, who played James Evans Sr. in *Good Times,* was fired for his vocal opinion on the lack of diversity among the show's writers and the overall negative stereotypical portrayal of the character J.J. Evans.

Challenging stereotypes

Things started to take a turn for the better in the 80s with *The Cosby Show*. Bill Cosby urged the audience to look past race and invite the Huxtables onto their television screens; the fact that they were an upper-middle-class American family only helped his case. Cosby was a pioneer in subtly breaking the negative stereotypes associated with the community and the show went on to tackle complex issues such as dyslexia and teen pregnancy during its airtime. *The Cosby Show* drove home ratings for NBC mainly because it represented an honest portrayal of an affluent African-American family.

Inspired by NBC's feat, other networks soon joined the race to get a share of the ratings pie by producing black sitcoms leading to a boom in the genre in the late 80s and 90s. Shows such as *Family Matters*, *Martin*, *Roc*, *Living Single* and *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* advanced the critique of race in America while occasionally indulging in stereotypes to do so. They also dared to experiment with heavier themes and tones of drama started to seep into them. However, in the late-90s, many of these beloved sitcoms were taken off the air.

Change in viewing habits

As neighbourhood gentrification started to get more pronounced in the United States, its shadows were reflected on network programming with many major networks diversifying their catalogue to cater to the young white American man, a move that pleased the advertisers. The top television shows in white households were no longer the same as the most watched in black households. For example, in 1997, *Seinfeld* was the top-rated show in white households but ranked 50th in black households while *Between Brothers* took the pole position in black households and only made it to 112th rank in white households.

However, newer networks like the WB and UPN stepped in to fill the vacuum for a short time period only to restructure their catalogues and cater to the white audience once they cemented their standing in the industry, a move previously adopted by FOX. According to *The New York Times*, the number of black sitcoms on television plummeted from 15 to six from 1997 to 2001.

Many black creators also began to view situational comedy as a weary vehicle to relay the African American experience to the audience at large and made strides towards adopting dramas with a hint of comedy.

Renaissance on the cards?

Black creators like Tracy Oliver and Issa Rae are shifting gears in the comedy genre and bringing laughter and joy back to stories about African-Americans. After finding fame through their web series *Awkward Black Girl* in the early 2010s, the duo went on to create pathbreaking shows such as *Insecure* and *Harlem* that depicted the community with nuance. There was no moral message at the end of each episode and their characters had the freedom and privilege to be spoilt and flawed.

In 2014, ABC's *Black-ish* which follows Anthony Anderson, a father and husband trying to create a sense of black cultural identity for his affluent family of six, successfully revived the network-based black sitcom sub-genre with the show enjoying a 79% non-black viewership, according to Nielsen, a global performance management company.

It is widely believed that the Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests in the wake of the brutal killing of George Floyd by the American police impacted the entertainment industry at large and the streaming services were some of the earliest adapters to the change. Close to a month after the protests were triggered, Netflix launched a 'Black Lives Matter' collection in the United States that included movies and shows such as Ava DuVernay's *13th* and *When They See Us*, *Mudbound*, *Orange Is the New Black*, *Dear White People*, and Barry Jenkins' Oscar-winning film, *Moonlight*. The streaming giant soon followed it up by licencing seven famous black sitcoms – *Moesha*, *The Game*, *Sister Sister*, *Girlfriends*, *The Parkers*, *Half & Half*, and *One on One*.

Currently, shows such as *The Ms. Pat Show*, *The Upshaws* and *Abbott Elementary* are raking in viewers, thanks to the proliferation of streaming platforms across the globe and the push to diversification in Hollywood that is gaining traction. Streaming platforms focusing on black content like BET+ (Black Entertainment Television) are grabbing eyeballs too.

George Bernard Shaw once said, "When a thing is funny, search it for a hidden truth," a practice often encouraged by black situational comedies. While the full impact of the BLM movement is yet to be seen, the beginning of a reformation in the black comedy sub-genre looks promising.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On March 24, 2005, the U.S. version of *The Office* premiered on NBC. Here is a quiz on the world of the popular American workplace comedy

Abhinaya K.

QUESTION 1
In the pilot episode of the show, this popular character was played by another actor. The character is known for making the other employees uncomfortable with her antics. Name the character and the actor who played her in the first episode.

QUESTION 2
What is the name of Michael Scott's movie that was completed "after three years of writing, one year of shooting, four years of reshooting and two years of editing"? Which cast member wrote the episode?

QUESTION 3
Dwight Schrute introduces a new reward system in season 3 called Schrute Bucks. What does he say is the cash value of a Schrute Buck?

QUESTION 4
Apart from starring on the show together, what do Angela Kinsey, Mindy Kailing, John Krasinski and Ellie Kemper have in common?

QUESTION 5
Michael Scott and the rest of the office make an advertisement for Dunder Mifflin which is not used by the company. What is the tagline used in the advertisement?

QUESTION 6
In a prank, the man is introduced as Jim Halpert. Pam introduces him as Steve, an actor friend. Who played this character?

Visual question:
Amy Adams appeared on the show for a few episodes. Which character did she play and what was the character's profession?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name the river and lake in Venezuela where lightning storms occur almost every day. **Ans: River Catatumbo; Lake Maracaibo**
2. What does the Saffir-Simpson scale measure? **Ans: Hurricanes**
3. What word is a unit of measurement that describes the amount of cloud cover at any given location? **Ans: Okta**
4. What weather does a black ball indicate on a synoptic chart? **Ans: Rain**
5. If vernal is related to spring, what are the terms for summer and winter? **Ans: Estival and Hiemal**
6. Name the lines on a map connecting places with equal incidence of meteorological phenomena. **Ans: Isopleths**
7. What temperature is the same on both the Celsius and Fahrenheit scales? **Ans: -40**
Visual: Name the Italian physicist and mathematician. **Ans: Evangelista Torricelli**
Early Birds: M. Suresh Kumar | Abhishek Sarkar | Arnasree Chakraborty

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

Mr. S.K. Thakur of Ranchi wants to know the meaning of the sentence, 'He won in the teeth of opposition'.

'In the teeth of' means 'in defiance of', 'in direct opposition to'. The sentence means that he won despite great opposition.

He won the contract in the teeth of incredible competition.

Mr. A.E. Subramanian, Tiruvanmiyur, Madras, writes: "Your comment on the use of 'no sooner' was unexceptionable so far as it went. The examples you gave were, as usual with the ones you furnish every time, most apt and did bring out the point. However, I thought it was necessary to mention that 'no sooner' could also be used without the use of the auxiliary and the inversion of the subject-verb order in sentences such as, for instance, "He no sooner arrived home than he was asked to start on another journey". That would have removed any impression that may have been caused by your examples that 'no sooner' could only be used in the initial position. In fact there can be no occurrence of the auxiliary or the inversion if 'no sooner' occurs medially."

Thank you, sir, for your additional information.

Ms. Ruthika of Bangalore wants to know how to respond to 'How do you do?'

When you meet someone for the first time, you say 'How do you do?' and shake hands with him/her. The response to the greeting is 'How do you do?'. It is not a question. It is the British way of greeting when you meet a person for the first time.

"How do you do?"
"How do you do?"

You should not give an answer like 'I am not very well', 'I am suffering from fever'. As a greeting, it is used only with 'you'. 'How did he do?' is not a greeting but a question. 'How are you?' is used when you want to know the state of health of the person to whom the question is put. This is answered in different ways.

"How are you?"
"Very well, thank you. How are you?"
"How are you?"
"Fine, thanks. How are you?"
"How are you?"
"Couldn't be worse."

Mr. P.P. Teja, M. G. Road, Bangalore, wants to know whether the twentieth century begins from 1900 or 1901.

The twentieth century is from 1901-2000.

The twentyfirst century is from 2001-2100.

Published in The Hindu on June 2, 1987

Word of the day

Repudiate:
refusing to believe or accept something

Synonyms: renounce, reject, abandon

Usage: *He has publicly repudiated his company's policies.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/3n2Xw8b

International Phonetic Alphabet: /rɪˈpjuːdɪeɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

FRIDAY
March 24, 2023
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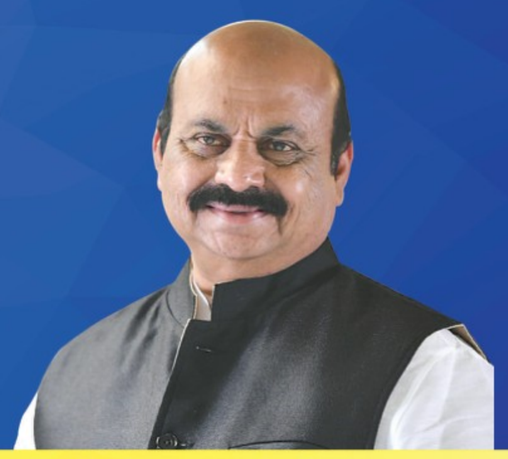
G20 भारत 2023 INDIA वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Major Strides
in the Cooperative Sector



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Foundation Stone Laying for
Sahakari Samruddha Soudha and
Inauguration and Launch of Various Projects of
KMF, Agriculture Marketing and other Departments by

Sri Amit Shah
Hon'ble Union Minister for Home and Cooperation

Distribution of Cheques to the Beneficiaries of Various Schemes by

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

24th March, 2023 | Friday, 12.00 pm
Kommaghatta Ground, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru

Inauguration/Launch of Various Projects and Works

- ✓ New Building and Administrative Office of BDCC Bank, Bengaluru
- ✓ Multi-level Car Parking Complex at Yeshwanthpura A.P.M.C. Yard
- ✓ New Shopping Outlets at Dasanapura A.P.M.C. Yard
- ✓ Flower Market at Binnypete A.P.M.C. Yard
- ✓ Packing Materials Manufacturing Plant at Challaghatta, built by KMF
- ✓ Cattle Feed Plant at S. Gollahalli Village, Sadali Hobli, Chikkaballapura District, built by KMF
- ✓ Cattle Feed Plant at Satyagala, Piriyapattana, Mysuru, constructed by KMF
- ✓ Nandini Students Hostel at Belagavi Dairy premises, built by KMF
- ✓ ERP (Enterprises Resource Planning of all activities of KMF & its units)
- ✓ Medical Oxygen Plant at ESI Hospital, Indiranagar, Bengaluru, sponsored by KMF
- ✓ Group Captive Solar Power Plant of KMF & its Unions
- ✓ Laying of Kaveri Drinking Water Pipeline and Underground Drainage System at 14 villages, which provided land to Nadaprabhu Kempegowda BDA Layout

Police Stations

- ✓ Tavarekere Police Station New Building
- ✓ New Buildings of the Kaggalipura and Talaghattapura Police Stations

Foundation Stone Laying/ Programs to be Launched

- Foundation Stone laying for the 'Sahakara Samruddhi Soudha' being constructed in the premises of the Office of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies
- Underground Drainage works of B.D.A., Banashankari 6th Stage.
- Multi-village Drinking Water Supply scheme under Jal Jeevan Mission program, for Kumbalgodu and surrouding 73 Villages, from Manchanabele Reservoir

Significant Steps in The Agriculture-Cooperative Sector

- A scheme to lend farmers medium and long-term crop loans up to Rs.3 lakhs at 0% interest and Rs. 10 lakh @ 3% interest is being implemented. The target is to disburse loans of Rs.24,000 crore to 33 lakh farmers in the current year. A sum of Rs.18,505 crore has been lent to 34.34 lakh farmers to date.
- The State government has allocated and released Rs.1,078.02 crore interest subsidy to Cooperative Institutions on behalf of farmers who have paid the loan in time.
- The scheme for lending loans through cooperative institutions to Self help Groups up to Rs.5 lakhs at 0% and Rs.5 lakhs to Rs.10 lakhs at 4% has been implemented. A loan of Rs.1,644.08 crore has already been disbursed to 38,616 SHGs till the end of February 2023.
- Under the Rs.1 lakh Crop Loan Waiver scheme, 17.37 lakh farmers are eligible for a waiver of Rs.8,155 crore and Rs.7,987 crore loan of 17.06 lakh farmers has been waived. Out of this, during the term of our government, a sum of Rs.5,387 crore has been waived.
- Under the "Agri Infra Fund" scheme, Rs.320.91 crore has been provided to 913 PACs to convert into 'Multi-purpose Service Centers'. Rs.158.02 crore has already been released as the first instalment.
- All the 6,040 Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the state are being computerised at a cost of Rs.235.56 crore using common software.
- The 0% interest loan limit will be increased from the present Rs.3 lakhs to Rs.5 lakhs, as announced in the 2023-24 budget. 60,000 farmers will be benefitted from this.
- Under the 'Bhoo Siri' scheme, a sum of Rs.10,000 Additional subsidy (Rs. 2,500 from State Govt. and Rs.7,500 from NABARD) will be provided to the Kisan Card Holders. This will benefit 30 lakh farmers in the state.

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

Conductor's death: Probe finds victim bought fuel before incident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An investigation into the death of a 43-year-old conductor, who was found charred to death inside a bus, found that the victim had purchased fuel from a nearby petrol pump station hours before the incident.

On March 9, the Byadarahalli police recovered the charred body from the parked BMTC bus at the Summanahalli depot. The bus was also burnt from inside.

The police gathered CCTV camera footage from in and around the area and a close analysis of the footage found that he had purchased fuel in a bottle after paying money via UPI.

According to the police, the victim, Muthaiah, had even told the driver, Prakash, to sleep inside the office while volunteering to sleep in the bus.

The police have collected the receipt from the staff of the petrol station for further investigation.

The police suspect that Muthaiah had closed the windows and doors of the bus before allegedly setting it on fire.

Owing to the fire, a few windows of the bus shattered, prompting the driver to wake up.

Constable arrested in extortion case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bagalur police arrested a head constable attached to the Marathahalli station for allegedly abducting a suspect in a poaching case and attempting to extort ₹40 lakh from him.

Based on a complaint, the police tracked down the accused head constable who was identified as Harish.

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, नई दिल्ली
(संसद के अधिनियम के तहत राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
(An Institution of National Importance enacted by an Act of Parliament, Ministry of Education, Government of India)
प्रवेश एवम परीक्षा विभाग ADMISSION AND EXAMINATION SECTION

EXTENSION OF LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS FOR P G COURSES

It is to notify that the last date of receipt of application forms for PG Courses has been extended to **Friday, 31st March 2023**.
For further details, please visit SPA, New Delhi Website: www.spa.ac.in under TAB "Admission – 2023-24".

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
(A Central University), HYDERABAD - 500 007

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. I/2023
(BACKLOG RECRUITMENT FOR FACULTY POSITIONS)

The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad invites applications for backlog vacancies from the eligible candidates in OBC, SC and ST categories for appointment to various faculty positions (**Professor:** SC-02, ST-1 and OBC-02; **Associate Professor:** SC-02, ST-04 and OBC-02; and **Assistant Professor:** OBC-01) in different departments at the University Campus, Hyderabad and its Regional Campuses at Shillong and Lucknow. The application can be downloaded from the University website **www.efluniversity.ac.in**

The details of the Notification, eligibility criteria and guidelines for filling the Application form are placed on the University website for information.

The last date for receiving applications is 12.04.2023.

Date: 21.03.2023 — Sd/- **REGISTRAR I/c**

THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
(A Central University), HYDERABAD - 500 007

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION FOR TEACHING RECRUITMENT NO. II/2023

The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad invites applications from the eligible candidates for appointment to various faculty positions (**Professor:** UR-10, OBC-04, ST-01 and EWS-01; **Associate Professor:** UR-06, OBC-06, PWD-01, SC-02 and EWS-01; **Assistant Professor:** UR-05, OBC-03, PWD-01, SC-02, and EWS-01) at the University Campus, Hyderabad and its Regional Campuses at Shillong and Lucknow. The application can be downloaded from the University website **www.efluniversity.ac.in**

The details of the Notification, eligibility criteria and guidelines for filling the Application form are placed on the University website for information.

The last date for receiving applications is 12.04.2023.

Date: 21.03.2023 — Sd/- **REGISTRAR I/c**

APPOINTMENTS

Kamarajar Port Limited
(A company of Chennai Port Authority)
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways - Govt.of India
17, Rajaji Salai, Chennai – 600 001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ref : Advertisement No. 01/2023 dated 22.02.2023

The last date of submission of applications for the post of General Manager (Operations) is hereby extended upto 24.04.2023.

For more details please visit our website **www.kamarajarport.in**

General Manager (CS & BD)
044 - 25251664

ANJUMAN-E-ISLAM BELGAUM
WANTED

As per the order of the Commissioner of Collegiate education Bangalore, Government of Karnataka Vide No-ಕಾಶಿಇ/202/ಖಾಹುಭ/ಧಾವಿ/2017–18/ನೇವಿ–2 ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು. Dated : 16-03-2023 and the order of the Joint Director Collegiate Education Regional Office Dharwad Vide. No.ಕಾಶಿಇ/ಪ್ರಾಕಧಾ/63/ಖಾಹುಭ/ಜಿಇಎಸ್-5/2022-23 dated. 18-03-2023 Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the Post of Assistant Professor in **Anjuman Arts and Commerce College Belagavi,** managed by Anjuman- E- Islam Belagavi (Minority & Aided Institution) in the subjects **Kannada-01, Hindi-01, Urdu-02,** Qualification, Age Limit, Pay Scale and selection Process will be as per the UGC Guidelines 2018 and Government of Karnataka. Applications on plain paper completed in all respects (in duplicate) along with necessary documents (Certificate) should reach within 21 days from this notification to the office of the Principal Anjuman-E-Islam's Anjuman Arts and Commerce, College Opp Dist Court, Belagavi- 590016 along with a DD of Rs.2000/- (Rs 1000/- for SC/ST and Category-I) drawn in favour of **Anjuman-E-Islam Belgaum Payable at Belagavi.** (Application fees is not refundable) Late & Incomplete applications will be rejected. Candidates called for interview will have to attend at their own cost. (No TA/DA will be Paid) A copy of application shall be submitted to Joint Director, Department of Collegiate Education Regional Office Dharwad - 580001 within the due date. For further details contact : 94486 34403.

Sd/- **PRESIDENT**

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J BG-BGE

Space start-up Pixxel bags U.S. contract

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru-based space start-up Pixxel has been awarded a study contract from the U.S.'s National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) for commercial hyperspectral imagery (HSI).

Pixxel is among the companies to bag the study contract from NRO which develops, acquires, launches, and operates the U.S.'s intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance satellites.

Five other firms

The five other companies to receive awards under NRO's Strategic Commercial Enhancement's (SCE) Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Framework are BlackSky Technology, HyperSat, Orbital Sidekick, Planet, and Xplore.

"We are operating the largest, most diverse, most capable overhead constellation in NRO's history as we face increasingly complex threats in space and on the ground. Through these newest contracts, we are very excited to explore the potential of commercial hyperspectral imagery and what it may be able to contribute to our world-class intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities," said NRO director Chris Scolese.

According to NRO, an agency of the United States Department of Defence, hyperspectral images are made up of light from hundreds of colours across the electromagnetic spectrum.

"Since hyperspectral imaging collects many different colours of light, any given object will have a unique signature. This enables users to obtain information about each pixel in an image, with the goal of identifying objects and materials. Hyperspectral imagery has a diverse set of applications in various areas, including agriculture, mining, geology, and intelligence and surveillance," it said.

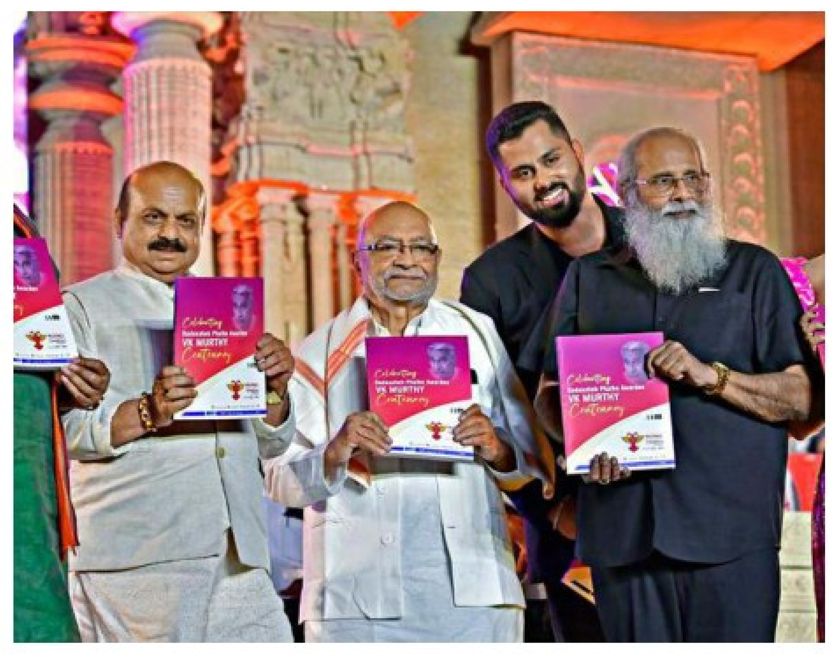
Film city should attract Hollywood filmmakers: CM

At the inaugural session of 14th edition of Bengaluru International Film Festival, Basavaraj Bommai says international experts will be invited to create the film city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After making several film industry-friendly announcements in the recent Budget, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday said that the work on the much-anticipated film city will begin soon with international expertise and infrastructure.

Speaking at the inaugural session of the 14th edition of Bengaluru International Film Festival (BIFFes), he said: "We are inviting international experts to create a film city and studio of international quality. Once the work is completed, not only Bollywood, but I want Hollywood filmmakers to visit the studio and utilise it".



Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and others at the inauguration of the 14th Bengaluru International Film Festival in Bengaluru on Thursday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Mr. Bommai further said that from the studio setup to making of cinema, theatres and views of cinema goers have all changed drastically post digitisation.

"Kannada cinemas have become international films today as we have world-class technology, talented artists, and objective stories. While *KGF 1* and *2* showcased technical expertise, *Kaantara* took our regional practices and culture to the international level."

Revenue Minister R. Ashok, who was also present during the inauguration, said the government had released ₹5.5 crore for BIFFes.

During the event, a catalogue was also released to celebrate the centenary year of V.K. Murthy, the Dadasaheb Phalke award winning cinematographer.

Director Govind Nihalani, who worked with V.K. Murthy was also present, during the celebrations.

The one-week festival's inauguration was also attended by Sapthami Gowda, lead actress of *Kaantara;* Abhishek Ambareesh, actor; Vijayendra Prasad, scriptwriter and Rajya Sabha member; and others from the film fraternity as well as the political scape.

Bommai 'inaugurates' incomplete BCU works

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ahead of the Karnataka Assembly elections, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai "inaugurated" incomplete works on the Bengaluru City University (BCU) campus worth ₹155 crore on Thursday. After separating from Bangalore University, the BCU was established as an independent university from 2017-18 at the Central College campus. The university took up various development works, including construction of a vertical academic block, sports complex, and renovation work of the heritage building.

However, the construction work of the sports complex is going on, and the construction of the vertical academic block is yet to be started.

In his inaugural address, he said: "The government is planning to set up a knowledge city on 2,000 acres on the outskirts of Bengaluru to help students who cannot go abroad for higher studies. Through this, the best educational institutes and universities of India and abroad will be located in one place".

"The government has decided to convert central Bengaluru as Bengaluru education district and adequate fund for the development of this will be provided. After the success of this education district, we will extend the concept to a few more districts," Mr. Bommai announced.

BBMP employee held for murder attempt

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The J.C. Nagar police on Wednesday arrested a 32-year-old Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) tax collector, along with two of his friends, for allegedly attempting to kill their friend, and make it look like a road accident death over a trivial row on Tuesday night.

The police found the severely injured Gagan Sharma, 41, at Jayamahal Road and took him to Victoria Hospital where he is recovering.

A probe revealed that Sunil, a tax collector at BBMP, and Gagan Sharma, Arun, and Krishna were on a joyride, along with Sunil's girlfriend after a party.

According to the police, they got drunk and were moving around the city, when Gagan passed a lewd comment on Sunil's girlfriend.

Enraged, Sunil and the other two allegedly beat up Gagan, pushed him out of the car, and ran over him to make it look like an accident.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, MAR. 24				
Sun	RISE 06:21		SET 18:31	
Moon	RISE 08:12		SET 21:04	
SATURDAY, MAR. 25				
Sun	RISE 06:21		SET 18:31	
Moon	RISE 08:56		SET 21:59	
SUNDAY, MAR. 26				
Sun	RISE 06:20		SET 18:31	
Moon	RISE 09:42		SET 22:54	

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	25
Mysuru	35	17
Bengaluru	35	22

Bengaluru Today
34ºC A mostly dry weather to continue. Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be warm. Night also will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33ºC A warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will remain pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our clients **Mr. VENKATESH** S/o Mr. A. Kulavathaivelu and **Mrs. METTINA. R** D/o Mr. A. Ravi are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mrs. ALICE ABRAHAM** W/o Mr. P.C Abraham .Any person/s, Financial Institution, Bank, Company etc objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of this public notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Residential property bearing 16, Old House List Katha No. 28/2/112, Present BBMP Katha Sl. No. 2194, of Byrathi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, then Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Bangalore East Taluk, Measuring East to West 60 Feet and North to South 40 Feet in all Measuring 1200 Square Feet, and bounded on the :
East by : Private Property West by : Road, North by : Site No. 15, South by: Site No. 17.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 7204863700

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify General Public that, **Mr.P.Uday Singh** S/o. Late.Pratap Singh is the owner of Schedule Property. It is represent by said **Mr.P.Uday Singh** that, were lost/misplaced and despite of his diligent search, he was unable to locate the same, hence had lodged/registered the complaint with the police vide e-Lost Report No.0442924/2023 dated 12.01.2023. AND also published the public notice in daily newspaper "Kannada Prabha" & "The New Indian Express"; both dated 14.01.2023. It is represented that till today he had not found the same. The details of documents lost/misplaced are as follows;

1. Sale Deed dated 10.09.1982 executed by Sri.A.Annaiah Reddy in favor of Smt.Kupendra Pushparaj
Reg No.(3883)3869/82-83, Book-I, Vol.1876, Pages 199-202, office of the Sub Registrar Bangalore South Taluk.

2. Sale Deed dated 11.02.2005 executed by Smt.Kupendra Pushparaj in favor of Sri.P.Uday Singh
Reg No.31004/04-05, CD No.KRID113, office of the Sub Registrar K.R.Puram, Bangalore.

3. Gift Deed dated 25.08.2012 executed by, Sri.P.Uday Singh in favor of Sri.P.Sanjay Singh
Reg No.5630/12-13, CD No.BNSD224, office of the Sub Registrar Banasavadi, Bangalore.

4. Gift Deed dated 26.08.2014, executed by Sri.P.Sanjay Singh in favor of Sri.P.Uday Singh
Reg No.8340/2014-15, CD No.BNSD327, in the office of the Sub Registrar Banasavadi, Bangalore.

Mr.P.Uday Singh had intended to mortgage / create charge over the Schedule Property, in favor of **Union Bank of India Rajajinagara Branch,** to secure the financial assistance propose to accorded by them, in view of the above, anybody, who have any manner of right, title, charge, interest, claim over the Schedule Property or any objections in whatsoever manner for the creation of charge over the schedule property in favor of the said Bank may file their objections before the undersigned or with the said Bank within **Seven Days** from the date of publication, and if the undersigned or the said Bank, does not receive any objections from whomsoever in whatsoever manner then it shall be presumed that the said Property is free from encumbrances and obligations and Bank may proceed to grant finance, by creating charge against the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
(Flat/Built-up area along with undivided share proposed to mortgage)

Item No.1
Flat bearing No.G-1, BBMP Katha No.5, PID No.88-79-5, Ground Floor, having Super built-up area of 1020 Sq Ft., along with right to use common areas jointly and having undivided share, right interest measuring 290 Sq Ft., with right to use 1 Car parking space in stilt floor.

Item No.2
Flat bearing No.G-2, BBMP Katha No.5/1, PID No.88-79-5/1, Ground Floor, having Super built-up area of 1200 Sq Ft., along with right to use common areas jointly and having undivided share, right interest measuring 340 Sq Ft., with right to use 1 Car parking space in stilt floor.

Item No.3
Flat bearing No.S-1, BBMP Katha No.5/4, PID No.88-79-5/4, Second Floor, having Super built-up area of 1020 Sq Ft., along with right to use common areas jointly and having undivided share, right interest measuring 290 Sq Ft., with right to use 1 Car parking space in stilt floor.

Item No.4
Flat bearing No.S-2, BBMP Katha No.5/5, PID No.88-79-5/5, Second Floor, having Super built-up area of 1200 Sq Ft., along with right to use common areas jointly and having undivided share, right interest measuring 340 Sq Ft., with right to use 1 Car parking space in stilt floor.

Item No.5
Flat bearing No.T-1, BBMP Katha No.5/6, PID No.88-79-5/6, Third Floor, having Super built-up area of 1020 Sq Ft., along with right to use common areas jointly and having undivided share, right interest measuring 290 Sq Ft., with right to use 1 Car parking space in stilt floor.

All the above Flats (Items No.1 to 5) are constructed over Property bearing **BBMP Katha No.5,** PID No.88-79-5, old premises No.4 & 5, House List No.496/1, situated at **2nd Main, Annaiah Reddy Layout, K.R.Puram Hobli, Banasavadi, Bangalore,** measuring East to West 63 feet AND North to South 40 feet, in all measuring about **2520 Sq Ft.,**

T.S.Ravi Kumar, Advocate
For, Union Bank of India, Rajajinagara Branch
No.29, 3rd Temple Street,
Malleshwaram, Bangalore – 560 003
e-mail:ravikumartsrk@gmail.com
Mob : 8310539238

Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur
(Govt. Autonomous Institution)
Hyderabad Road, Raichur -584102 Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89
Web. www. rims-raichur.com Email info@rims-raichur.com

No.RIMS/SUP/TEND/2022-23 Dated: 20.03.2023

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for supply of Various Drgus, Surgicals & Other Items to RIMS Teaching Hospital Raichurunder two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

Sl. No	Particulars	Tender No	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)
1	Supply of Various Injections to RIMS Teaching Hospital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/INJ/99/ 2022-23	91.40
2	Supply of Various Tablets to RIMS Teaching Hospital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/TAB/100/ 2022-23	89.18
3	Supply of Various Surgicals & Miscellaneous Items to RIMS Teaching Hospital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/SUR/101/ 2022-23	89.99
4	Supply of Various I.V.Fluids, Vaccines & Antidotes to RIMS Teaching Hospital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/IV FLUIDS/ 102/ 2022-23	99.31
5	Supply of Various X-Ray Films & Other Items to RIMS Teaching Hospital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/X-RAY/ 103/2022-23	97.97
6	Supply of Various Antibiotics to RIMS Teaching Hopsital, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/ANTI/104/ 2022-23	97.54

1) Tender document may be downloaded from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 21.03.2023, 2) Last Date for Queries on or before 27.03.2023 @ 05.00 PM, 3) Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 04.04.2023 upto 5.00 PM & 4)Technical bid will be opened on 06.04.2023 at 11.30 A.M.

Further information may be obtained from above office and from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and also from this Institution web site www.rims-raichur.com

Sd/- Director
Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences Raichur

DIP/Raichur/760/KSMC&A/2022-23

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY
(A Central University, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India)
(Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008)

Advt. No. IMU-HQ/R/13/30/2/2020-Estt.-(R) Date: 24.03.2023

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR CONTRACT ENGAGEMENT

Indian Maritime University -Headquarters invites suitable candidates for walk-in-interview for the following posts **on contract basis:**
1. **Assistant Engineer (Civil) (01 Position)**
2. **Training Consultant (01 Position)**

Eligibility	Visit website (www.imu.edu.in)
Date of walk in interview	For The post of Assistant Engineer (Civil): **31.03.2023** For The post of Training Consultant: **12.04.2023** Kindly refer to important instructions for timing, venue, available at IMU website
Last date for submitting application	For The post of Assistant Engineer (Civil): 30.03.2023 For The post of Training Consultant: 11.04.2023
Consolidated Emoluments Commensurate with experience	Assistant Engineer (Civil) Rs. 77,500/- per month (Maximum) Training Consultant Rs. 70,000/- per month (Maximum)
Contract period	Initially for a period of six months, which may be extended for further period based on performance and requirement.

Eligibility criteria for the post and other details can be obtained from **www.imu.edu.in.**
No TA/DA will be paid to the candidates to attend Walk-in-interview.
-Sd-
REGISTRAR

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ಇವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
–ಃ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಃ–

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ.ಲೋಇಃಬಾವಿಃಕೆಡಬ್ಲು:2022–23/ಪಿಬಿ–1/05529 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.03.2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅಕ್ಕ 2000ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ ಕೆ/ಡಬ್ಲೂ–ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ವರ್ಕ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ: ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ: 164291/ಕಾಲ್–2
ಈ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಟೆಂಡರಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ200.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ವರೆಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಅ)	ಪ್ರೀಬಿಡ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್	23–03–2023ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 11–30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
ಬ)	ಟೆಂಡರ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಾಗಿ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	24–03–2023ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5–30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
ಕ)	ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	28–03–2023 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 4–00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
ಡ)	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	29–03–2023ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ4.30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
ಬ)	ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	30–03–2023ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ4.30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿವರವಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು,
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಬಾ/1032/2022–23/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.

STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED
19-A, RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHY ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI – 600 008
CIN U74999TN1971SGC005967

Tender Notice NIT.No.46/CD/T.No.46/2022-23 **Dt.20.03.2023**
(ONLINE ONLY)

For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited, tenders are invited under **"Two Cover System"** through online only for the following work from **Class–I** State Level Civil Contractors registered in PWD / Highways / Any Department of Government of Tamil Nadu, Central Government Department, Tamil Nadu State Government Undertaking having experience in similar nature of works. Tenders will be received upto **15.30 Hrs** (as per server system clock) on **25.04.2023** and the same will be opened at **15.30 Hrs** (as per server system clock) on **26.04.2023.**

Name of Work	Approx. value of work	EMD
Formation of Main Road No. (19 & 4) (30m wide), Providing RCC Storm Water drain Construction of Single Cell box culverts, Minor Bridges and Providing Street light in SIPCOT Industrial Park, Shoolagiri.	Rs.7045.96 lakhs (including GST @18%)	Rs.35,33,000/-*

* In the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of **SIPCOT Ltd.,** payable at **Chennai.** (In the Tenderer's Name/Firm only)

The tender Schedule can be Downloaded at free of cost from the website **www.tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR/1840/TENDER/2023 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

Govt of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI

No:EE/PWD/KD/TS-5/Tender Notification/2022-23/ 10545/1 Date: 17.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi Invites tender for the 02 works under DMF 2019-20 & 2021-22 through e-portal for work indent Nos: 167017 & 164216, 2) Estimated Cost: **Min Rs 38.01 Lakhs Max. Rs 110.00 Lakhs,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class III & above, 4) Tender fees and EMD details: **Min Rs 0.64 Lakhs Max. Rs 1.38 Lakhs**, 5) Pre Bid Meeting : **23/03/2023 at upto 11:00 Hrs**, 6) Last date & Time for Tender Queries/clarifications : **24/03/2023 upto 17:30 Hrs**, 7) Last date for submission of tender: **29/03/2023 upto 16.00 Hrs**, 8) Last date & time for opening of Technical Bid : **30/03/2023 upto 16.30 Hrs**, 9) Date of opening of Financial Bid : **01/04/2023 at 16.30 Hrs.** 10) Address for Enquiries & Clarifications: Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 11) website : **www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1558/MC&A/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
(Karnataka Rural water supply & Sanitation Department)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURAGI-585105

No:EE/RDW&S/Dvn/Tech/2022-23/3943 Dated : 18-03-2023

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two cover)

The Executive Engineer Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi on behalf of Honorable Governor, Karnataka here by invites separate Technical & Financial bid tender for drinking water works from eligible civil contractor detailed as below

The Tender Document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site http://eporc.karnataka.gov.in and should be submitted through E-procurment system only

1) Name of work: **Chittapur taluka-01 (Indent No 43536,** 2) Head of A/C: DMF 2020-21, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: II & above, 4) Tender Amount: **Min 1,10,00,000/- Max 1,10,00,000/-**, 5) Date of Commencement of downloading of Bidding document: **20-03-2023 11:00am,** 6) Cost of tender form and EMD: As per E-portal, 7) Last Date to submit bids on e-portal: **27-03-2023 4.00pm,** 8) Opening of Techincal Bid: **28-03-2023 4.01pm,** 9) Opening of Financial Bid: **30-03-2023 11:00am,** 10) Address for any clarification reg.tender: Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, PRE division 1st floor Kusanoor road Kalaburagi.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1552/MC&A/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICER, KALABURAGI TQ. & DIST. KALABURAGI.
Phone: 08472-278619 e-mail: dhogulbarga@gmail.com

No.: EST/DEV/CR/07/10/11/13/14/2021-22 Date : 20-03-2023

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTICE

Sub.: Regarding inviting Short-Term Tender through e-procurement for purchase of Medical Equipment under D.M.F. Scheme for the year 2019-20

Tender Details are as below (website: http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

1) Work Code : 2019-20/HC/DIR/002, Name of work : Providing Medical Equipment to PHC Hospitals Sedam Taluka, 2) Work Code : 2019-20/HC/DIR/008, Name of work : Providing Medical Equipment to CHC Hospitals Chitapur Taluka, 3) Work Code : 2019-20/HC/DIR/009, Name of work : Providing Medical Equipment to PHC Hospitals Chitapur Taluka, 4) Work Code : 2019-20/HC/DIR/005, Name of work : Providing Medical Equipment to CHC Hospitals Chincholi Taluka, 5) Work Code : 2019-20/HC/DIR/002, Name of work : Providing Medical Equipment to PHC Hospitals Chincholi Taluka, 6) Work Code : 2019-20/HC/IND/003 & 004, Name of work : Providing Ambulance to Kamalapur Taluka, 7) Amount put to tender (in Lakhs) : **Minimum 7.52, Maximum 71.35,** 8) Commencement date for Tender submission : **21.03.2023,** 9) Last date for submission of Tender : **31.03.2023 up to 4.00 PM,** 10) Date of opening Technical Bid : **01.04.2023 at 04.00 PM,** 11) Financial Bid of Tender : Only the Financial Bids of contractors eligible in Technical Bid will be examined on **03.04.2023,** 12) E.M.D. of Tender : 2.5%, 13) Officer to be Contacted and Address, Phone No. : Office of the District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Kalaburagi. Phone No.: 08472-278619

For further details contact the undersigned Officer during office hours.

Sd/- District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1563/MC&A/2022-23

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In jolt to Congress, BJP wins Kalaburagi civic body polls by 1 vote

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a jolt to the Congress on the home turf of the All-India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikajun Kharge, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) captured power in the Kalaburagi City Municipal Corporation by bagging both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor posts by one vote.

Elected
Vishal Dargi and Shivanand Pisti, both from the BJP, were elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor, respectively.

Mr. Dargi and Mr. Pisti secured 33 votes each to bag the posts. Congress candidate Prakash Kapanur, who contested for the Mayor post, and Vijayalakshmi Reddy, a Congress-supported Janata Dal (Secular) candidate, who competed for the Deputy Mayor post, secured 32 votes each.

Of the 70 eligible voters, 65 were present at the time of voting.

Absentees
Mr. Kharge, member of Legislative Council Laxman Savadi, and corporator Alimuddin Patel of the Janata Dal (Secular) were absent.

Baburao Chinchansur, who was in the list by virtue of his residence in Kalaburagi, turned out to be ineligible as he, a few days ago, tendered his resignation to his membership of the Legislative Council.

High Court restrains transport employees from going on strike

Court notes that the proposed strike will affect students across Karnataka who are preparing for their annual examinations

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka restrained the Sarige Nigamagala Noukarara Samana Manaskara Vedike (employees of State-run transport corporations) and its members from going on strike for three weeks starting March 24.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Ashok S. Kinagi passed the interim order on a PIL petition filed by H.M. Venkatesh, a resident of Harogolige in Tirthahalli taluk of Shivamogga district.

However, the Bench said that the interim order would not come in the way of holding further round of conciliation proceedings on April 6 before the Commissioner, Department of Labour.

The vedike had given a call to its employees to go on strike from March 24 claiming that transport corporations and the State government had failed to meet various demands of employees.

The Bench found that the reasons cited by the petitioner's counsel are justified to interfere with the strike call as the proposed strike would affect students across the State preparing for their annual exams.

The employees had given a call for strike from March 24 claiming that transport corporations and the State government had failed to meet various demands of employees. FILE PHOTO

The petitioner's counsel pointed out that a large number of students are likely to be affected with chances of missing exams due to non-availability of bus services. Several annual exams, including the ongoing second year pre-university exams and the ensuing class 10 exams, are scheduled in March and April.

Besides, non-availability of bus service would impact health services in hospitals and dispensaries as employees and workers in this sector would not be able to reach their work places due to the strike.

Earlier, government counsel told the Bench that conciliation process was initiated after the vedike issued a notice on March 8 in form L (notice of strike to be given by union/workmen in a public utility service) under provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Pursuant to the strike notice, the government counsel said, the Commissioner organised a conciliation meeting on March 20. When the employees stuck to their stand, the Commission fixed another conciliation meeting on April 6.

The vedike decided to go ahead with the strike from March 24 even though another organisation, Joint Action Committee of Employees' Trade Unions, withdrew its strike call after meeting the heads of the corporations.

Employees of State-run RTCs call off strike plan after High Court order

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After the High Court of Karnataka restrained the Sarige Nigamagala Noukarara Samana Manaskara Vedike (employees of State-run transport corporations) and its members from going on strike for three weeks starting March 24, the vedike on Thursday announced the withdrawal of the strike.

Future action
The vedike in a press release claimed that it has cancelled the strike respecting the court's order and said: "However, after three weeks, we will take a call on what to do next after a meeting with members".

The vedike had given a call to its employees to go on strike from March 24, accusing the transport corporations and the State government of failing to meet various demands of employees.

Main demand
The primary demand is that the State government should pay salaries to the RTC employees on par with government employees.

The vedike decided to go ahead with the strike from March 24 even though another organisation, Joint Action Committee of Employees' Trade Unions, withdrew its strike call after meeting the government.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure-South Division
N.R. Square, Bengaluru – 560 002.

No: EE/RI/South/TEND/05/2022-23 **Dated : 21.03.2023**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Tender Notification) (Two Cover System)
(Through GOK e–Procurement Portal only)

1. The Government of Karnataka, vide G.O.No.ನ.ಅ.ಇ.65 MNY 2023 Bengaluru dated 21.03.2023 has accorded in Principle approval and sanctioned budget under Hon'ble Chief Minister's NAVA NAGAROTHANA for taking up of the works listed below.
2. The Executive Engineer Road Infrastructure-South Division invites tenders on behalf of the commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for works given in the table through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka **(viz https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)**.The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract.
3. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from 21.03.2023 onwards
4. Tenders must be accompanied by Earnest Money Deposit specified for the work in the table below. Earnest money deposit will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the Tender document (Minimum of Rs1,00,000/- through e-payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance by bank guarantee issued by Nationalized / Scheduled Bank and shall have to be valid for 180 days beyond the validity of the tender)
5. Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or **before 17.30 hours on 27.03.2023** and the opening of tenders will be as per the e-procurement portal guidelines.
6. GST Shall be Paid to the tendered amount separately
7. Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Standard Bid Document	Appx. Amount put to tender (Rupees in lakhs)	EMD (Rupees in Lakhs)	Cost of Tender Document	Period of Completion
1	Asphalting and formation of footpath in selected roads of Basavanagudi	KW4	720.00	10.80 (1.00 Lakhs through e-procurement and Balance by Bank Guarantee)	As per e-Procurement Portal	06 months (Including Rainy Reason)

NOTE:
1. Pre bid meeting will be held on **24.03.2023 at 15.00** hours in the office of the Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure) to clarify the issue and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in "Instructions to Bidders" of the bidding document.
2. Technical Bids will be opened on the website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in in the office of the Executive Engineer–South Division on **29.03.2023 at 16.00 hours.**
3. Aspiring Bidders/Contractors who have not registered in e-procurement should register before participating through the website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
4. Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.
5. All the required information required for Bids must be filled and submit online.
6. For details, registration and e-payment visit GOK e-Procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact e-Procurement Helpdesk at 080–22371090, 22340060, 22340948
7. This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP **website www.bbmp.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Road Infrastructure –South Division
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Amit Shah in Bengaluru today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is set to take part in a slew of programmes in Bengaluru on Friday, a day ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit. This is the sixth visit of Mr. Shah to poll-bound Karnataka in nearly three months. Mr. Shah is set to again visit the state on Sunday.

Though his visit is related to participation in official programmes, he is expected to monitor the party State unit's preparations for the Assembly elections, due to be announced soon.

Also, Bengaluru city that accounts for 28 of the total 224 Assembly constituencies in the State is believed to be high on the priority list of Mr. Shah. He is believed to be of the view that winning a few more seats in Bengaluru and Belagavi, besides making political inroads in the Vokkaliga heartland of Mandya and surrounding areas, could tilt the political balance in favour of the BJP.

On Friday, Mr. Shah is set to participate in a regional conference of Southern States and Union Territories on "Smuggling of Narcotics and National Security." He will also lay foundation for Sahakara Samruddhi Soudha in Kommaghatta village on Bengaluru city outskirts and participate in a convention of beneficiaries of various schemes.

He is set to formally inaugurate a few new police stations in Bengaluru.

Traffic diversion for Home Minister's visit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru traffic police have made elaborate arrangements to ensure free and smooth traffic flow between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m., during the Union Home Minister's visit to the city on Friday.

Commuters are requested to avoid HAL Airport Road, Mysuru Road, N.R. Road, Nrupathunga Road, Seshadri Road, Palace Road, Race Course Road, and the Kengeri to Kommagatta road.

Movement of light, medium, and heavy goods transport vehicles has been restricted between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. from Town Hall to N.R. Road, Mysuru Road, Nayandahalli towards the city, and Kumbalagodu to Kengeri towards the city.

Goods vehicles are advised to use Lalbagh Road - Hosur Road - NICE Road, instead of N.R. Road to move towards Mysuru Road.

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Shortlisted candidates will be informed within 1 month of the last date of Application.

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I Meghana Shreekant Pradhan W/O, Dinesh Mani R/o Aahika Apartments, Ranka Colony Road, Bilekahalli, Bangalore - 560076 have changed my name to Meghana Pradhan for all purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THIRUVALLA
OP (HMA) NO. 496/2022
Petitioner : Jayashree Pratap, D/o Mr. Pratapan K, aged 26 years, Kochuvadakkethil House, Pullad P.O, Pin-689548, Koipram Village, Thiruvalla Taluk, Pathanamthitta District.
Vs.
Respondent : Rahul C, S/o Mr. Chinnappa Reddy, aged 29 years, Sreekanth Residency, 2nd main, 2nd cross, HSR Layout, Sector 7, Bommammahalli, Bengluru - 560102
To
The respondent Mr. Rahul. C
Whereas the above named petitioner has instituted the above original petition against you seeking dissolution of her marriage with you for the ground under Section 13(1) (i) (a) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. You are hereby required to file in this court an appearance in person or a vakalatnama within 3 weeks from the service of this summons upon you.
And whereas the above original petition will be placed for directions on the board of the judge on the 10th day of April 2023.
You are hereby summoned to appear before the judge to answer the petitioner's claim on the said 10th day of April 2023 at 11 'O' clock in the forenoon.
Take notice that on the day before mentioned after hearing parties who appear; directions will be given by the judge as to the date of hearing before the Counsellor of the Family Court and other matters concerning the petition.
Take further notice that if you fail to file your appearance in person or a vakalatnama as direct above, or if you fail to appear before the judge on the day before mentioned the petition may be ordered to be set down on Board on the same day or any subsequent day as "undefended" and you will be liable to have a decree or order passed against you.
19th day of January, 2023 Hg. 10.4.2023
By order of the Judge (sd)
T.S Mohanan (Advocate for the Petitioner)

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, ANMOL Modi, S/O. Chandrakant Modi, R/O.F.No 122, E–Block, Neeladri Mahal Apt, Nandi Durga Rd,Nr Airtel Office, Jayamahal Ext, Blr–46, have changed name To Anmol Chandrakant Modi vide afdvt dtd 21/03/23
I, MITHUN S/o Venkataswami Bellary, R/o #002, VMAKS Chalet Apmt, Sampige Nagar, Kammasandra, Elec City East, Blr–100, have changed my name as Mithun Bellary, vide afdvt dtd 18/03/2023
I, ANIL Surana, S/o Prakash Chand Surana, R/o No.621/117, 5th Cross, 2nd Block, Banashankari 1st Stage, Bangalore-560050, have changed my name from Anil Surana to Anil Kumar Surana vide affidavit dated 21-03-2023 before Notary K.V.Mani, Bengaluru.
I, MURTUZA Firoz Zakir, R/o Hakimi Edifice Apartment, No. 402, 4th Floor, 5th Cross, 5th Phase, J P Nagar, Bangalore-560078, have changed my minor Daughter's name from Zahra Murtadha Dholfaqar Hamzah to Zahra Murtuza Zakir vide affidavit dated 22-03-2023 before Notary K.V. Mani, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby made known to the public that my clients Ms.Lakshmi Sai and Ms.S.P.Gayathri are permanently doing SEVA at Art of Living International Ashram, 21st Road, Kanakapura, Bangaluru. Both are co-owners of a house property having address Metal Factory Road, Flat A-4G1, Aminjikarai, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600 030. During the Navarathri time on 20.10.2022, my client had taken the original sale deed above property bearing document No.3230 of 2005 to the estate office at Art of Living International Ashram, on account of very heavy rush, they have lost the above original sale deed when it was kept at the baggage counter and it appears to be irretrievably lost. My clients have orally reported this to lost and found section at the Art of Living International Ashram to ensure its return. If anyone has the above said deed in his or her possession, Or comes to know of its where abouts, the public are hereby requested to inform the under mentioned person and such act will be rewarded suitably. The lost original sale deed is required for donating it to a noble trust.
Mr.B.Thrumalai
Ms. M. Akshayaa
Advocate
57, Law Chambers, Madras High Court,Chennai-104.
Ph: 9840129468

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, PRIYA Gaddgi Modi, W/O. Anmol Chandrakant Modi,R/O.F.No 122,E–Block,Neeladri Mahal Apt,Nandi Durga Rd,Nr Airtel Office,Jayamahal Ext,Bengaluru–46, have changed name to Priya Gaddgi vide afdvt dtd 21/03/23
I, VINOD R K Date of Birth 12-04-1997 S/o R. Kumar R/o #32, 2nd Street, Yallamma Koil Street, Halasuru, Bengaluru-560008 have changed my name from Vinod R K to Vishal R K vide affidavit dt: 23-03-2023 before Notary A. R. Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

TENDERS
National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.
Regd. Office: NAFED House, Siddhartha Enclave, Ring Road, Ashram Chowk, New Delhi-110014
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Sanjay Kumar Rathi, Manager (Horticulture)
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(With Specialization in Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation / Financial Management/ Business Analytics and Intelligence)
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(RCI Approval awaited)
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M. Sc. Neuropsychology
Gandhinagar
M. Sc. Clinical Psychology
Gandhinagar
M. Sc. Forensic Psychology
Gandhinagar
M. A. Criminology
(Specialization in Forensic Psychology)
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Gandhinagar
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(Specialization in Forensic Structural Engineering)
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Manipur

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Small and medium-scale industries face big problems

Peenya Industrial Area comprises thousands of small and micro-enterprises that employ lakhs of workers. It is a critical infrastructure as it manufactures almost 50% of machine tools produced in the entire country and accounts for over 60% of Karnataka's total production of machine tools

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Rajesh Kumar, a 55-year-old entrepreneur, who had set up an auto component manufacturing unit in Peenya Industrial Area (PIA) in North Bengaluru, had to shut it down in August 2022 following severe loss in business, especially after COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Kumar, who had set up his company a decade ago, was successful in running the business until issues pertaining to the rising costs of raw materials during the pandemic forced him to shut down the unit, which led to loss of jobs to 85 employees.

"Steep rise in prices of raw materials over the past two years has severely affected us as well as many other Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in the PIA. My company had long-term contracts with big companies without a price hike clause. The price rise affected my manufacturing unit, and it became difficult to sustain, especially after the pandemic. I had no option but to close down the business," Mr. Kumar said.

PIA comprises thousands of small and micro enterprises that employ lakhs of workers. Manjunath H., President of PIA, said around 20% of companies based in the industrial area have shut down after the pandemic.

"According to our internal report, we have seen that 20% of MSMEs in our industrial area have shut down. The main reasons MSMEs are shutting down are increased raw material rates and industries not being able to repay bank loans. During the pandemic, most industries didn't run due to the lockdowns. After the industries shut down, thousands of employees have lost their jobs and gone back to their hometowns," Mr. Manjunath added.

The Peenya Industrial Area is a critical infrastructure as it manufactures almost 50% of machine tools produced in the entire country and accounts for over 60% of Karnataka's total production of machine tools.

"The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the vulnerability of the MSME sector in Peenya. During the pandemic, our industrial area was the worst hit on account of the demand and supply shocks caused and the measures taken later to curb the spread of infection. The sector is still struggling to survive and recover from the pandemic-induced issues, while the post-pandemic issues also led many MSMEs to shut down," Mr. Manjunath pointed out.

Civic infrastructure deficiencies

Once considered to be southeast Asia's oldest and largest industrial area, Peenya has also been grappling with civic mismanagement issues in the last few years. Bad roads, solid waste management issues, poor underground drainage systems, and a polluted lake and groundwater, besides being poorly lit and crippled by irregular power and water supply, are common complaints.

Mr. Manjunath complained that waste was often not picked up with civic workers claiming that it is industrial waste.

"Garbage lies in heaps on roads; the drains are clogged, and sewage overflows. Apart from this, sewage is also getting mixed with the drinking water. The best example is the sole water body in Peenya, the Shivapura lake; if you look at the lake, it is completely destroyed. The local authorities have done nothing to prevent encroachment or letting sewage into it. The area around the lake stinks and it is unbearable," Mr. Manjunath said.

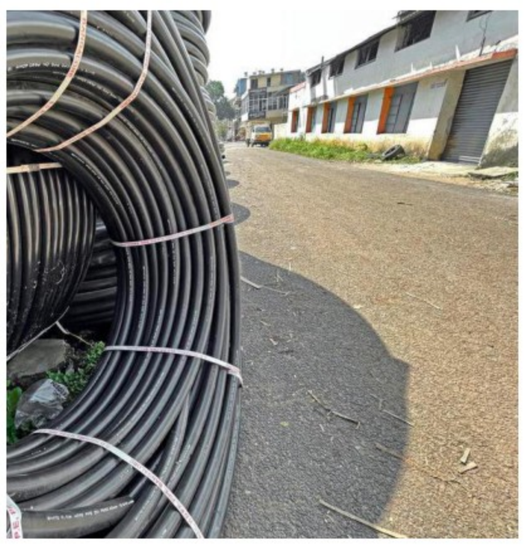
Prathap Raj, an employee in one of the industries, said the local representatives are not interested in the area.

"No elected representatives and civic officials are interested in improving infrastructure here as they don't get many votes from an industrial area, while officials just do not care for our repeated complaints," he alleged.

PIA members said industries in the area contribute crores of rupees as taxes, but the infrastructure provided to them is poor.

An aerial view of the Peenya Industrial Area in Bengaluru. During the pandemic, most industries didn't run, resulting in thousands of employees losing their jobs. K. MURALI KUMAR

> The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the vulnerability of the MSME sector in Peenya. During the pandemic, our industrial area was the worst hit on account of the demand and supply shocks caused and the measures taken later to curb the spread of infection.
>
> **MANJUNATH H.**
> President, PIA



In protest against the steep rise in prices of raw materials, businesses in Peenya observed a bandh in December 2021. K. MURALI KUMAR

PIA awaits township status

The area is still awaiting a township status, almost three years after the B.S. Yediyurappa-led government proposed to set up the necessary infrastructure for the township backed by a budgetary allocation of ₹100 crore.

"After decades of our follow-ups came the breakthrough in the form of a budgetary allocation of ₹100 crore and the proposal for the township in the last budget. However, it has still not been approved by the government. We are continuously meeting the Chief Minister and the file is in his office, but not yet approved. The Electronics City Industrial Association came much after Peenya but became a township long ago and Peenya is still waiting for it," said Mr. Manjunath. The Karnataka Small Industries Development Corporation (KSIDC) had been given the responsibility of preparing a detailed project report (DPR), and according to a trade representative from the Peenya Industries Association, the DPR is ready, and cabinet nod is pending.

"In 2022, there was a high-level meeting involving representatives from the government and all departments concerned and office-bearers of PIA to discuss the matter again. After that, we have constantly been following it up. Allotting a township status to Peenya and constituting a statutory authority is not a big task for the Government. It can do it in a month itself. Our only request to the government is not to delay any further," he added.

"As Asia's largest industrial zone, Peenya Industrial Area has a pre-eminent status, and the government should expedite the formalities involved in converting it into a township authority, as this would give it a fair amount of autonomy which would go a long way in improving the maintaining the amenities and industrial infrastructure. As per the 74th amendment to the Constitution, once given township authority status, Peenya Industrial Area would be excluded from the jurisdiction of BBMP, which would inject much-needed freedom for the industries themselves to maintain the infrastructure on their own," Mr. Manjunath explained.

A file photo of a labourer working at one of the manufacturing units in the Peenya Industrial Area in Bengaluru.

MSMEs closing down is a warning sign to the government

GUEST COLUMN

K.N. Narasimha Murthy

The industry fraternity has always had concerns that remain unaddressed, but the present situation, as far as micro and small-scale industries (MSEs) are concerned, is such that one wonders if this general trend has hit a critical mass. In Peenya Industrial Area, nearly 15-20% of over 16,000 MSEs have shut, according to a rough estimate. If you survey all the MSEs Statewide, you may find the situation even more alarming.

There are many reasons for this, like soaring raw material shortage, rising labour costs, scarcity of skilled labour, harassment by officials, delayed payments and lack of timely, adequate and sustained governmental intervention.

Systemic problems

At the outset, we have to also acknowledge that the State government is indisputably well-intentioned. However, the problem is more of a systemic nature, and we need to go beyond good intentions.

The Karnataka State Small Industries Development Corporation (KSSIDC), which is one of the reliable suppliers of raw materials at affordable rates to the MSEs, has stopped supplying them for the past nearly two years now. The other source – the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) – is seen to be irregular and unreliable, due to inadequate stocks, and not customising the quantity of supplies needed.

Labour costs have risen mainly due to inflation, the high price of fuel and bus/metro fares, the continuing increase in prices of essential commodities and also high rentals. Many people are reluctant to work in MSEs because of the IT culture and they demand high salaries as an incentive.

On top of this, there is a stark scarcity of skilled hands. While the government has taken a lot of steps towards skill development, it will take more time for the results to percolate to the ground level, assuming that they will indeed pay off.

Add to this, the thinning margins for a small entrepreneur due to high overhead costs, like frequent hikes in power tariff, property tax, and high rentals. The latter is perhaps the biggest disincentive because nearly 90% of the MSEs operate in private industrial areas as government industrial estates set up by KSSIDC/ KIADB cater to barely 10% of the demand for industrial sheds/plots.

Plight of small entrepreneur

The government has repeatedly assured us that industrial estates will be set up in all districts and taluks, but there's a wide gap between assurance and implementation.

The ordinary citizen is probably unaware of the sacrifices and the plight of the small entrepreneur. To give an example, industries in Peenya were told to shift to Greater Peenya Industrial Estate in Nelamangala as part of efforts to decongest Bengaluru. Now, who would imagine that an entrepreneur, with a settled business, clients and workers, would agree to shift to a far-off place, as it would have clear repercussions on all these factors that drive their business?

But many agreed and shifted to Nelamangala, paying an exorbitant sum for allotment of an industrial plot, for which they borrowed heavily at high interest. Even the allotment was delayed for years and their business was virtually left high and dry for years! The situation has improved now, but the state of infrastructure at Nelamangala is a far cry from what was committed to by the government. Harassment by officials of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board is another common complaint. The MSEs are slapped with a notice on some or the other ground and the industry owner is left to handle such prickly problems at the cost of the productivity in his factory.

Another perennial problem is the delayed payments for supplies made to PSUs, large organisations, etc. Despite government initiatives to ameliorate this situation, delayed payments continue to haunt the MSEs and affect their cash flows and their bottom line.

What govt. should do

The critical question to ponder over is: what should the government do to bail out the MSEs? The answer is not in announcing more schemes but to tighten the implementation and monitoring mechanism so that good intentions turn into reality.

The best way to improve the implementation architecture is to involve industry associations in the monitoring mechanism. This has to be done in mission mode and systemically, reducing the scope for arbitrary human intervention, and at the same time, allowing for creative ways to handle the grievances of the small entrepreneur.

(The writer is president, KASSIA, and an entrepreneur)

At the AI-related exhibition this weekend, Bengaluru will get to experience different facets of art in all its 3D glory

AI breaches art's final frontier

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Art shed its sedate demeanour and jumped onto the digital bandwagon a couple of years ago; the rest of the world woke up to that fact sometime during the pandemic and has been making up for lost time since. Suddenly, a whole new cyber world opened up a vista of possibilities for the artistically, AI-inclined.

If you think you have missed that train, there is still a chance you can hop on. This weekend will see Bengaluru host an exhibition where Artificial Intelligence (AI) is virtually (pun intended) the canvas on/ through which art has been rendered. These projects are a part of FutureFantastic, a tech-art festival that uses AI, interactive art and live performances to shine a spotlight on global challenges such as climate change.

So very meta

This AI Tech art festival was conceptualised by BeFantastic in partnership with FutureEverything (UK) where artistes have used AI in some form to depict climate change. It is part of British Council's India/UK Together, Season of Culture initiative.

"Essentially, we're trying to explore whether art and technology coming together can become a new and interesting medium for storytelling. And the stories we want to tell are on different aspects of climate change," says Kamya Ramachandran, festival director and co-curator of FutureFantastic.

While new media arts is an established vertical in the Western art world, most senior artists in India are wary of using technology for art. "That is where we come in. Over the last few years, we've run workshops where artists can play with technology to create something interesting." It is a shift in perspective, not just for an artist who learns to use technology, but also for technologists can apply scientific know-how to art. This is about blurring these boundaries to work with each other and go to an interesting place of innovation," she adds.

As many as 53 artists, performers and speakers will be presenting their work at FutureFantastic, and at least three artists have worked together to create every piece of work. Digital art students from the IT Department, Government of Karnataka, are also a part of the event.

Elsewhere in India it is a little less of an exhibition and a little more lively. This live, transmedia performance titled Elsewhere in India, combines game engine technology, AI-generated art and Carnatic-electronic music, to present a one-of-a-kind experience.

Multimedia mix

Helmed by audio-visual artists Thiruda (Avinash Kumar) and Murthovic (MSR Murthy), the project features their digital human avatars enlisted by 'an out-of-work cultural cyborg named Meenakshi, to remix extinct heritage, craft and science traditions'.

As video game experts and electronic music maestros, Avinash and Murthy realised they could harness their skill set, "to make performances". "We decided to combine both those worlds – of electronic music and video games – and that led us to Elsewhere in India," says Avinash.

For those a bit perplexed as to what Elsewhere entails, "It's at the intersection of a cinema/ music/ art experience – a new genre in a sense."

Elsewhere In India is produced by Antariksha Studio.

All aboard the AI Express

Two projects supported by the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore are at the festival as a part of the BeFantastic Within Fellowship.

The Merge: Embodied Al Bangalore by Berlin-based artist CyberRäuber, is a performative piece that explores the city of Bengaluru.

The work involves four human performers who will be followed by a camera around the city and their interactions will be streamed live to the Festival Centre and various locations around the world.

Where Do I Come From? Where Do I Go? by artists Malavika PC (India), Papia Chakraborty (India) and Asli Dinc (Germany) with supporting artist Pritha Kundu (India), explores the relationship between performers and the garbage they generate, in an AI-powered art installation.

FutureFantastic will take place at Bangalore International Centre from March 24 to 26. Free entry, but registration required. For details visit futurefantastic.in, goethe.de/bangalore and social media platforms.

Nothing artificial about this

The seventh edition of the much-awaited Namu Recommends Vegan Market will be held at the Bangalore International Center (BIC) as part of Future Fantastic. The two-day event will feature over 70 vegan brands from around the country, as well as plant-based milk and cheese brands.
Apart from food products, eco-friendly personal care products and zero-waste everyday essentials that focus on sustainability will be presented from noon to 8pm, on March 25 and 26 at the BIC rooftop.

Virtual reality Some of the interactive exhibits at FutureFantastic. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Shine a light

BS Lingadevaru, known for the National Award-winning film, 'Naanu Avananalla Avalu', talks about his latest film, based on the life of Hanagal Kumaraswami

True story Still from the film and (below) BS Lingadevaru SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Shilpa Anandraj
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The film *Viraatapura Viraagi* had a silent release last month. The film is based on the life of Hanagal Kumaraswami, who is also known as the 20th Century Basavanna. Kumaraswami is popular in north Karnataka as the man who sacrificed everything to propagate education, music and performing arts in rural areas. "Some of the educational institutions, he founded are still running in Belgaum and Bijapur," says the director BS Lingadevaru. "He used to travel by foot and occasionally by bullock cart to Bagalkote, Bellary, Bidar, to spread the word.

Lingadevaru's name is synonymous with the award-winning film, *Nannu Avanalla Avalu*, which featured the late Sanchari Vijay and was about transgenders.

"The film follows his journey, from his infancy to death. Even the title of the film, *Viraatapura Viraagi* , is an ode to the seer as Viraatapura is the place he hails from, explains the director. Lingadevaru describes *Viraatapura Viraagi* as a film that puts the spotlight on a seer, who is not known beyond the borders of North Karnataka. "Hanagal Kumaraswami was born in 1867 and died in 1930. I call this a period film, which just about introduces the society to his profound works, ideology, and reforms in the pre-Independent era. His passion to support the arts and music was so intense that one day when he heard two blind boys singing, he brought them to his math and provided them with the training and education they needed."

One of the boys went on to become the famed singer Panchakshara Gavai. "Though Kumaraswami did not personally train him, he arranged for teachers for Gavai and his brother from north India and Lahore. History says that Kumaraswami provided the teachers with hospitality during their stay here to train the boys."

The director says the film is the result of three years of research.

Making the film was not easy, says Lingadevaru. "We were inspired by the students of Kumaraswami, who wanted to see his life come alive on the screen." Apart from Suchendra Prasad, who plays Kumaraswmi, the rest of the cast features local talent and real life seers. "They even dubbed for themselves. It was easy as they had to be themselves. I followed the same process in *Nannu Avanalla Avalu*, besides Sanchari Vijay the rest of the cast were actual *mangalamukhis* (transgenders)."

The film received positive feedback for its music, cinematography and content, but could not be dubbed a commercial success. "We are organising special screenings for anyone who is interested in a peek at a biography and history of North Karnataka."

Viraatapura Viraagi is being screened across educational institutes in Karnataka. The film will be screened on March 26 as part of BIFFes in the Asian Competition category.

With a vengeance The city now has another option to let off steam. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A cool place to blow a fuse

Had a bad day at work, a fight with your parents or partner? Blow off some steam at Bengaluru's first and only Rage Room

Ileena Dutta
ileena.dutta@thehindu.co.in

I just broke a television and it felt good. All the pent up anger from a mean comment a friend had made the previous night was now out of my system.

This was courtesy Bengaluru's recently-launched Rage Room where I spent 15 minutes demolishing things – ceramic cups, beer bottles, thermocol sheets – with an iron rod and a hammer in hand. The objects to break vary according to the time slots chosen.

You get to smash television sets, refrigerators, microwaves, plastic, wood, and metal objects. The staff provided me with safety equipment including industrial safety apparel, a helmet, gloves and a pair of boots.A playlist of rock music provides a good background track for the destruction to follow.

In a society where we are conditioned to suppress negative emotions, what led Ananya Shetty to start this initiative?

"I want to make it fashionable to say that 'I was so angry with you that I had to go to Rage Room to calm myself down'," says founder Ananya. "People with deep-seated frustration need recognition that they are annoyed and they have a valid reason, which is usually ignored in our need to be sane and sensible all the time," says the 23-year-old, adding how the outfit is seeing a great response with 25 registrations a week on an average.

There are several booking options, ranging from a five-minute slot to a 20-minute session, and couples can also register for a session together.

Upwards of ₹99. To book a session, register online at rageroombangalore.com

Breaking news

Reportedly, the first rage room opened in Japan in 2008. Then, it became a popular concept in Serbia, the United Kingdom and the US. In India, the first rage room, called Bhadaas Cafe, opened in Indore in 2017. Sighting its popularity, Hyderabad got its first outfit in 2022, followed by Bengaluru.

STEPOUT

Nine-days special

Café Delhi Heights offers you a Navratri *thali*. The menu includes *kesari malai mawa lassi, sabudana khichdi, phalahar, kuttu ki roti, makhanwala paneer* and *chatpata aloo chat. The food will be available till March 30 at their outlet in Forum Rex Walk, Brigade Road, from noon to 12am. Call 9148614033.*

Well-versed

Attend an evening of poetry and a storytelling gala as part of World Poetry Day.
The aim is to celebrate poetry and bring together poets, scholars, and other like-minded individuals for an enlightening exchange of poetry, literature, and storytelling.
On March 24, 6pm at Galaxy Club, Brigade Gateway, Rajajinagar.
Call 89517 77298 to register.

Dance of the mixed media

Natya STEM Dance Kampni presents the premier of Palimpsest — a mixed-reality and mixed-media production by transcontinental collaborators showcasing the hurt and hope of climate change. Concept and choreography is by Madhu Nataraj who collaborates with MD Pallavi, Sam Mohan, Bhushan Bagadia, Jiayu Liu Studio, BOT and Team Gooey.in
On March 24, 7pm at Bangalore International Centre. Visit https://stemdancekampni.in/ for details.

SC/ST quota hike: State recommends inclusion of law in Ninth Schedule

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has recommended to the Centre to bring the new legislation enhancing reservation to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

The inclusion of the law in the Ninth Schedule will fortify it against any legal challenge. The Cabinet in February decided to send the proposal to the Centre.

Chief Secretary Vandita Sharma has written to the Home Secretary, Government of India, on the inclusion of The Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in the Services Under the State) Act, 2022, that enhances reservation for SCs from 15% to 17% and for STs from 3% to 7%, in the Ninth Schedule. The legislation was passed in the winter session of the legislature in Belagavi in December last.

The Congress had been attacking the government for not bringing the law under the Ninth Schedule and termed the government decision an "eye-wash" to attract SC/ST votes ahead of the Assembly elections. The government's move now comes days ahead of the schedule of the polls being declared.

High Court permits govt. to decide on Panchamasali quota

Court vacates order of *status quo* after government says its decision will not affect reservation for existing castes in Category 2A

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of a protest by Panchamasali Lingayats over reservation issue.

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday allowed the State government to take a decision on reservation for the Panchamasali Lingayat sub-sect as the government gave an undertaking that the proposed decision would not disturb the constitutionally guaranteed quota in the existing Category 2A of the caste-based reservation list.

However, the court made it clear that any decision to be taken by the government on the issue would be subject to the final adjudication of the pending petition.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Ashok S. Kinagi passed the order while modifying its earlier interim order passed while hearing the PIL petition filed by Raghavendra D.G. of Bengaluru.

Interim order

In its January 12 interim order the Bench had directed the State government to maintain *status quo* on the interim report of the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes (KSCBC) with regard to the demand for inclusion of Panchamasali Lingayats in Category 2A. The interim report of the KSCBC was submitted to the court on February 3 in a sealed cover.

The Bench modified the January 12 interim order after Solicitor General of India (SGI) Tushar Mehta gave an undertaking to the court that any decision to be taken by the government would not have any impact on the reservation quota for the existing castes in Category 2A.

Pointing out that one of the main apprehensions expressed in the petition was that inclusion of the sub-sect in the Category 2A list would impact members of the existing castes in the category, Mr. Mehta clarified to the Bench that the decision to be taken by the government would not in any way disturb the existing reservation. Mr. Mehta told the court that his statement could be taken as an undertaking on behalf of the Karnataka government, and the undertaking, in written form, would be submitted to the court in addition to the statement of objection filed by the government on the petition. He also said that the decision to be taken by the government would be subject to the final adjudication of the issues raised in the petition.

'Fair approach'

Recording the SGI's statements, the Bench said the undertaking was a fair approach as the statement would also not cause any prejudice to the petitioner's concern.

When the petitioner's counsel opposed vacating the *status quo* order, the Bench said the court cannot stop the government from taking a decision when it was not directly affecting the petitioner.

In case the government commits a breach of its undertaking to the court, it would be open for the petitioner to seek a remedy from the court as per the law, the Bench observed orally.

All eyes on today's Cabinet meeting

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet meeting here on Friday is likely to take a decision on the Panchamasali reservation issue after the Karnataka High Court on Thursday allowed the State government to decide on it.

While the court has been informed that Category 2A reservation will not be touched, it is likely that the newly created categories of 2C and 2D among the backward classes for Vokkaligas and Veerashaiva-Lingayats could get a slice in the reservation basket. Multiple sources said a decision was likely since the BJP fears a backlash from the community in the ensuing Assembly elections.

Call to seer?

Sources close to the seer of Panchamasali mutt at Koodalasangama Jaya Mruthyunjaya Swami, who is spearheading the reservation agitation seeking 2A category status for Panchamasalis, claimed that the Prime Minister's Office intervened in the issue, which has given them a ray of hope on the Friday's Cabinet meeting. "We have been promised benefits from the Central OBC list also."

The Cabinet during the winter session in Belagavi in December approved the creation of new categories of 2C and 2D for Vokkaligas and Veerashaiva-Lingayats, respectively, based on the interim report submitted by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes. The quota could come from the 10% EWS quota, Law Minister J.C. Madhuswamy had indicated. Currently, Panchamasalis come under Category 3B.

Incidentally, the Cabinet meeting, which was to have taken place on Thursday, was postponed to Friday. Friday's Cabinet meeting in all probability will be the last one before the announcement of the schedule for the Assembly polls by the Election Commission.

Awards to be presented today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj will present Gandhi Grama Puraskar for 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 and Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Award on Friday. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai will inaugurate the event at Tripuravasini, Palace Grounds, at 11 a.m.

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FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय स. १०, पूर्वी छोर, मुख्य मार्ग, चौथा ब्लॉक, जयनगर
REGIONAL OFFICE No.10, EAST END MAIN ROAD, 4th 'T' BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, बेंगलुरु/BENGALURU - 560041

सं. आरओ केए-32.0011.0/12/2023-कॉन-ती केए दिनांक: 23.03.2023
No. RO KA-32.0011.0/12/2023-CON-RO KA Date: 23.03.2023

ई-निविदा सूचना/e-Tender Notice

जी ई एम पोर्टल के माध्यम से "दो बोली प्रणाली "के तहत दो वर्ष हेतु 1)आरएच/एफएसडी कोप्पल, 2)एफएसडी विजापुरा, 3)आरएच/जीएस शिमोगा और एफएसडी गाडिकोप्पा, 4)आरएच/जीएस शिमोगा और एफएसडी थावरेकोप्पा, 5)आरएच /एफएसडी मैसूर (मैसूर गुड्शेड से) और 6)एफएसडी मैसूर (नंजनगुड गुड्शेड से) के लिए हैंडलिंग और परिवाहन अनुबंध हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जा रही है। एनआईटी और निविदा प्रपत्र "www.fci.gov.in" और "https://gem.gov.in" पर उपलब्ध हैं। ऑनलाइन बोलियां 15.04.2023 को अपराहन 02:00 बजे तक प्रस्तुत की जानी हैं। पंजीकरण, प्रशिक्षण और बोलियों को ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए, निविदाकारों को "https://gem.gov.in" पर देखने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।

Online Tenders for regular **1)HTC at RH/FSD Koppal, 2)HTC at FSD Vijaypura, 3)HTC at RH/GS Shimoga & FSD Gadikoppa, 4) HTC for RH/GS Shimoga & FSD Thavarekoppa, 5) HTC at RH/FSD Mysore (Ex- Mysore Goodshed) and 6)HTC at FSD Mysore (Ex–Nanjangud Goodshed)** for two years is invited under "Two Bid System" through GeM portal. NIT and tender forms are available in **"www.fci.gov.in"** & **"https://gem.gov.in"**. Bid should be submitted online within **2.00PM** on **15.04.2023**. For registration, training and submitting bids online, tenderers are requested to visit **https://gem.gov.in**.

महाप्रबंधक (कर्नाटक)
GENERAL MANAGER (KTK)

Odisha Tourism
Paryatan Bhawan, Lewis Road,
Bhubaneswar-751014
Fax No. +91 674 2430887
E-mail: info@odishatourism.gov.in

ODISHA
INDIA'S BEST KEPT SECRET
ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ
ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ଭବନ, ଲୁଇସ ରୋଡ୍,
ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର-୭୫୧୦୧୪

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର
ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ବିଭାଗ
Government of Odisha
Tourism Department

No. 3682 /TSM, Bhubaneswar, Dated : 21-03-23
TCT-COOD-MISC-0034-2022

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR LEASING-CUM-DEVELOPMENT/ UPGRADATION, OPERATION & MANAGEMENT OF TOURISM PROPERTIES OF DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

Department of Tourism (DoT) invites proposals from prospective applicant(s) for leasing-cum-development / upgradation, operation & management of tourism properties of Department of Tourism, Odisha in accordance with the conditions and manner prescribed in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document.

The Proposals should be submitted by interested parties to the Director Tourism, Paryatan Bhawan, Lewis Road, Bhubaneswar-751014 on or before **20.04.2023 upto 15:00 Hrs.** The detail terms of RFP may be downloaded from our website: **https://odishatourism.gov.in/content/tourism/en/dot/quickLinks/tender.html .**

Director, Tourism
R-21
OIPR-37001/11/0075/2223

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that my client has entered into Agreement for Sale to purchase the schedule property from its owner Smt. A. Latha, W/o. Sri. K. Ashoka, R/o at # SB2-42, Vijaya Enclave, SRS Nagar, Bilekahalli, Bannerghatta Road, B'lore- 76. Any person/s having any claim over the schedule property may lodge his/her/their objections or claims in writing with all documentary evidence with regard to such claims, to the undersigned within 15 days hereof, failing which my client will proceed to complete the purchase. Any objections /claims received thereafter will not be binding upon my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece & parcel of the Property bearing No. 9/1, BBMP Khata No. 918/9/1, formed in converted land bearing Sy No. 9/1 (converted vide conversion order bearing No. ALN (SB)SR: 146/11-12, dated 14-06-2012, issued by the Special DC, Bangalore District), situated at Nyanappanahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently within the limits of BBMP Ward No. 193, Arakere, measuring East to West: 31+35/2 feet and North to South: 83+82/2 feet, totally measuring 2722.5 sq ft and bounded on East by: Land in Sy No.9/1, West by:Land in Sy. No. 11/1, North by:Remaining portion of Sy. No. 9/1 & South by: 80 ft Road

K. S. Nandish Babu, Advocate,
No.7, Above Janatha Hotel,
MBS Building, H.Siddaiah Road,
11th Cross, Wilson Garden, B'lore – 27

Siddaramaiah to contest from two seats this time too?

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah appears to be planning to contest from two constituencies in the upcoming Assembly elections as he did in 2018.

Sources in the party said the Leader of the Opposition has sought the consent of the Congress high command to permit him to contest from two constituencies.

Sources said he is planning to contest either from Badami and Kolar or Kolar and Varuna. However, the party high command is yet to give its consent on the matter, sources indicated.

In 2018, Mr. Siddaramaiah contested from two constituencies and lost to G.T. Deve Gowda (JD-S) in Chamundeshwari constituency and narrowly won against Transport Minister B. Sriramulu by about 1,700 votes in Badami. The 75-year-old Congress leader chose Kolar on the ground that Badami is too far from Bengaluru. Though his followers offered to buy a helicopter to visit Badami, Mr. Siddaramaiah turned down their proposal.

Tour of Badami

Meanwhile, even as the suspense over his choice of constituency continued, Mr. Siddaramaiah has decided to conduct a roadshow in Badami constituency on Friday.

He would inaugurate a drinking water supply project for ensuring water supply to Badami-Kerur. He would also participate in the roadshow from Ramdurg Cross in Badami to the APMC. Mr. Siddaramaiah maintained that he would abide by the decision taken by the party high command on contesting elections. When asked if the ambiguity over his candidature is a sign that he will contest from Varuna, Mr. Siddaramaiah said nothing could be dismissed in politics.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Obituary

15/04/1926 to 18/03/2023
Om Shanthi
Shri TM Mahadevan
eminent geoscientist, Retd Director of Atomic Minerals Division, (DAE), Govt of India and son of
Late Adv TM Mahalinga Iyer passed away peacefully on **18 March 2023** at his residence at **8:30pm,** Kochi.
He is deeply mourned by his surviving family Usha & Venkateswaran and Sumathi & Krishnan & grandchildren Rajesh Venkateswaran, Vaanie Krishnan and Dinith Amarasinghe and Vasanth Krishnan, nieces and nephews and family members.
TM Mahadevan's illustrious life was spent providing yeoman services towards the advancement of earth sciences across a span of 8 decades including authoring books on Deep Continental Studies of India.
Cremation was on **20 March 2023** saw the family joined by members of his school, SRV Government School Kochi, scientists from ***Department of Atomic Mineral Division (DAE) Govt of India, Dept of Marine Geology and Geophysics CUSAT and Geo Marine Society IIT Mumbai***
Regrets:
sumischoicesatgmail.com

SAD DEMISE

Shri.Menathu Ramankutty Nair
21.03.2023 (82 years)
Retd.Fire Service,Kalpakkam
It is with great sadness that we announce the demise of loving Husband - Father. We love you and will always miss your presence. You have taught us to never give up and live life to the fullest.
Wife **V. Meenakshi Kutty**
Brother-In-law **V.A.Radhakrishnan**
Daughters & Sons-in-law
V. Vijayalakshmi — P. Renganathan
V. Rajalakshmi — A. Manikandan
V. Sujatha — Rajesh V. Eswar
V. Renjani — Harisankar. R
Grandchildren : Roshni, Sowmya, Vishnu, Pranav, Kanieshk, Reshma & Ameya

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Loving Memory

P.S.RAM CHANDER
02.06.1948 to 24.03.2002
You are always our Inspiration. Thoughts of you give us direction in life. Love you papa.
-Devoted Wife, Son & Daughter

1st ANNIVERSARY

P.S. GOPALAN
(M/s Simpsons, Chennai)
15/01/1939 - 23/03/2022
Remembered by Family & Friends
Ct:9176993013/9941921111

In fond memory of our mother on her
25th death Anniversary

Smt. R.Gomathy Ammal
23-3-98
Today we remember with deep respect in our hearts.
We always remember you Amma with deep love
By
Ammami Family

DEATH

We deeply regret to inform the demise of our beloved founder

JOHN AMALRAJ
27 Feb 1966 - 20 Mar 2023

of Skylark Information Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Deeply Mourned By

skylark

The Management & Staff
Skylark Information Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
Skysoft Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Clients Sri. **T.A. SENTHIL,** S/o. Thumbur Amrutha Kanteshaiah Setty, Aged about 46 years and **Smt. S. VIDYA,** W/o. Sri. T.A. Senthil, Aged about 37 years, Both are Residing at No.2852, 4th Main, 17th Cross, K.R. Road, Behind Umamaheshwari Temple, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bengaluru -560 070. is intends to purchase the below mentioned schedule property belonging to Sri. **V. ANAND,** S/o. Sri. N. Venkatesh, Aged about 45 Years, R/at No.37, Sapthagiri Nilaya, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, 80 Feet Road, Muneshwaranagar, Subramanyapura Main Road, Bengaluru-560 061, having title to the Property concerned as per the documents verified.

Any person or persons asserting any rights, title or claim in the schedule properties in any manner or the documents thereof or objecting to such sale in favour of my clients should write to the undersigned within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of issuance of the Public Notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to the schedule properties. The claims and objections received thereafter will not be binding on my clients and thereafter my clients shall proceed to purchase the schedule properties as if there are no claimants / objections to the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable residential Property bearing amalgamated BBMP Khatha No.37, Old No.23 & 24 (43/1) PID No.55-56-37, New PID No.182-W195-10, Northern Portion of Site No.23 and Site No.24, formed in Sy.No.43/1, Situated at 1st Cross, Muneshwaranagara, Revenue Layout kadirenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, presently comes under the Limits of Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Padmanabhanagar-Ward No.182, **presently Municipal No.37, PID No.55-56-37,** 1st Cross, Muneeswaranagara, Revenue Layout, Bengaluru, measuring East to West : 42½ Feet and North to South : (43+41)/2 Feet, totally measuring 1785 Square Feet, consisting of Ground, First, Second and Third Floor, each Floor 12 Square, in total 48 Square R.C.C. Roofed House with all civic amenities and bounded on :- **East By:** Property No.12 & 13, **West By:** Road, **North By :** BDA Property, **South By:** Property No.23.

J.S. KRISHNAMURTHY, Advocate,
No.10, (334/10), 7th 'B' Cross,
Bhuvaneshwari Nagar,
BSK III Stage, Bengaluru-560 085.
Mob No.9845399492
Place: Bangalore
Date: 20-03-2023

Stolen Chola-era Hanuman idol brought back to India

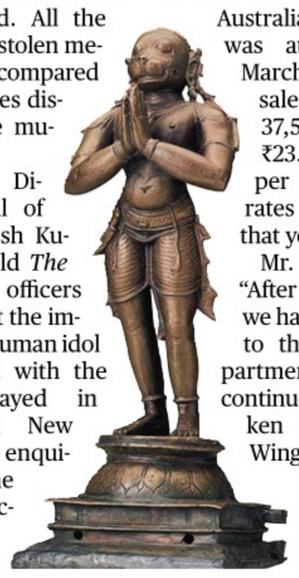
R. Sivaraman
CHENNAI

A rare variety bronze idol of Hanuman, which was stolen from a Chola-era temple in Ariyalur district a decade ago and auctioned by Christie's, an art auction house in the U.S., in 2014 to a private collector and U.S. citizen residing in Australia, was finally retrieved by Idol Wing CID of the Tamil Nadu Police after a long struggle.

A theft was reported from a Chola-era Vishnu temple called Sri Varadharajaperumal Temple in Pottaveli Velur village near Sendurai, Ariyalur district in 2012. Unidentified persons broke open the doors of the temple and looted four bronze idols of Varadharaja Perumal, Sridevi, Bhoodevi and Hanuman.

A case was registered by the Sendurai police, following a complaint from one of the trustees of the temple. After taking efforts to investigate, this case was closed as 'undetected' by the local police. Subsequently, the case was transferred to the Idol Wing CID in 2020 on the orders of the Director General of Police.

The Idol Wing CID, which took up the case for investigation, searched the various idol images displayed on the websites of the art galleries and museums abroad. All the images of the stolen metal idols were compared with the images displayed in the museums.



Additional Director-General of Police, Shailesh Kumar Yadav told *The Hindu*, "Our officers found out that the image of the Hanuman idol was matched with the image displayed in Christie's in New York. Further enquiry revealed the idol was auctioned and owned by a private art collector who is a U.S. citizen residing in Australia." The idol was auctioned on March 19, 2014 for sale price of US$ 37,500 (around ₹23.25 lakh, as per exchange rates prevalent that year).

Mr. Yadav said, "After knowing this, we have sent letters to the Home Department. On the continuous efforts taken by the Idol Wing CID, the private collector who kept the idol has accepted and handed over the idol to the Government of Australia through the U.S. Embassy.

In turn, it was handed over to the India High Commission at Canberra, Australia with assistance from the Union Ministries of Home Affairs and External Affairs and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

Finally the Hanuman Idol was retrieved to India.

The ADGP said the idol would be received by the officers of the Idol Wing CID shortly from the ASI, New Delhi. After receiving the idol it would be restored to the temple concerned.

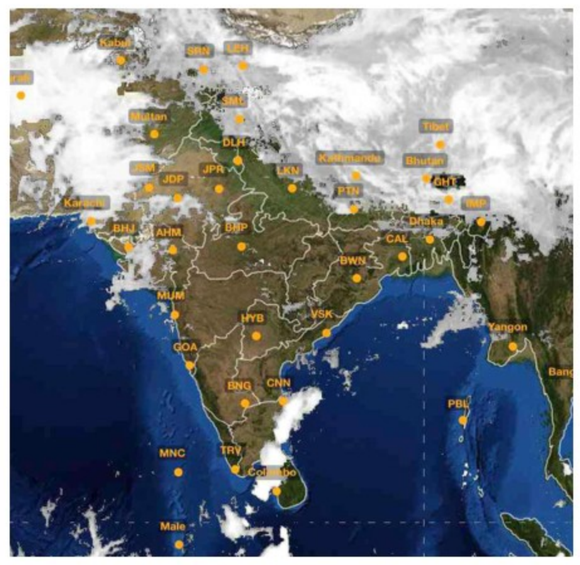
S.Vijay Kumar, art enthusiast and co-founder of India Pride, said, "We are happy that the Hanuman we traced is finally back in India. We thank the Idol Wing and U.S. Homeland Security for their support to force Christie's auction house to co-operate. We still have three more bronzes of Vishnu with consorts stolen from the same temple to be traced."

The auction house has not revealed who the consignor was or the provenance paperwork for the Hanuman.

India should seek that information so that Indian authorities can try to trace missing idols, experts said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.6	19.6	Kozhikode	—	35.6	25.0
Ahmedabad	—	35.4	23.6	Kurnool	—	38.1	23.8
Aizawl	8	30.5	12.2	Lucknow	—	28.3	16.5
Allahabad	—	32.9	15.8	Madurai	—	36.8	25.1
Bengaluru	—	34.5	22.0	Mangaluru	—	34.2	23.0
Bhopal	—	—	17.4	Mumbai	—	31.7	22.8
Bhubaneswar	16	36.2	22.4	Mysuru	—	36.0	17.4
Chandigarh	—	28.1	15.4	New Delhi	—	30.5	14.8
Chennai	—	32.5	28.0	Patna	—	31.7	18.0
Coimbatore	—	36.6	22.4	Port Blair	7	31.8	24.1
Dehradun	—	27.9	13.3	Puducherry	—	—	—
Gangtok	33.4	15.8	8.3	Pune	—	32.7	17.6
Goa	—	35.6	21.5	Raipur	—	34.0	20.6
Guwahati	9	29.6	16.1	Ranchi	—	31.2	16.0
Hubballi	—	36.0	20.0	Shillong	4	20.8	10.5
Hyderabad	—	34.6	21.5	Shimla	—	17.7	5.8
Imphal	5	24.7	13.9	Srinagar	—	17.9	5.2
Jaipur	—	30.8	18.2	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.5	25.1
Kochi	—	31.8	26.0	Tiruchi	—	37.7	26.0
Kohima	2	17.5	9.3	Vijayawada	—	34.6	26.0
Kolkata	—	32.6	22.7	Visakhapatnam	0.4	31.5	23.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.11	.17	.24	119	124	
Bengaluru	7	.18	.44	57	81	
Chennai	.20	.16	.66	35	32	
Delhi	.34	.95	100	230	235	
Hyderabad	.36	7	.68	109	128	
Kolkata	.27	.31	.19	50	74	
Lucknow	.20	.26	.35	119	143	
Mumbai	—	267	.84	202	153	
Pune	116	165	112	57	50	
Visakhapatnam	.19	.47	.29	48	98	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Satna, Madhya Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 275 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 22

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Brahmapuram fire: Oppn. flays govt.

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Congress and BJP have accused the LDF government of "complicity in the corruption that caused" the massive toxic fire at the dumping site of the Kochi Corporation's waste disposal plant at Brahmapuram.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan said the government shied away from a debate on the subject to provide cover for the ruling front-linked firm contracted by the Corporation to biomine the waste and convert it to energy. He said the government owed the public an explanation why the company bagged majority of the municipal contracts for waste disposal.

Charukeerthi Bhattaraka Swami was a man with a mission

The head of the Jain Mutt at Shravanabelagola had led a team of 21 experts to translate 'Dhavala' into Kannada

Sathish G.T.
HASSAN

Charukeerthi Bhattaraka Swami, head of the Jain mutt at the renowned pilgrimage centre of Shravanabelgola, passed away on Thursday.

A scholar in Prakrit and Sanskrit, the 74-year-old had led a team of experts to translate ancient Jain scripture *Dhavala* into Kannada in 39 volumes from the National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research that he set up in 1993.

Devotees pay their respects to Charukeerthi Bhattaraka Swami of Jain Mutt at Shravanabelgola on Thursday. PRAKASH HASSAN

No phone, no travel

As the seer took on the mission of translating the commentaries, he avoided travelling outside Shravanabelgola and also stopped answering phone calls. He had never used a phone since 2005. In an interview with *The Hindu* in 2017, the seer said he imposed this restriction on himself as he and his team had taken up the massive work of translation.

He preferred letter writing over the phone. He did not take calls even when people holding high positions tried to contact him. Similarly, he did not step out of the pilgrimage centre when the translation work was going on.

Mahamastakabhishekas

The seer was born on May 3, 1949, at Varanga near Karkala in Udupi district. He studied history and philosophy. In his later years, he obtained a postgraduate degree in Prakrit. He was appointed head of the Jain mutt in April 1970. In the last 53 years, he conducted four Mahamastakabhishekas, the grand anointment of the 57-foot-tall Gomateshwara statue atop Vindhyagiri at Shravanabelgola – in 1981, 1993, 2006, and 2018.

Many dignitaries, including President Ramnath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, participated in the event held in 2018.

The seer developed health complications a couple of months ago. His staff said he did not take allopathic medicine, no matter what his health condition was.

The last rites of the seer were conducted with state honours at the foothills of Chandragiri at Shravanabelgola.

Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur
Office of the Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Madhugiri
Tender Notification no:27/2022-23
Dated: 20.03.2023

Behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Tender for Various works under Various Head of accounts of P.R.E. Division, Madhugiri have been published in e portal. Registered and Eligible contractors may submit the bids within **27.03.2023** upto 11.00AM through e procurement website. For more details Contact Ph. 080-25501216, 080- 25501227 or visit http:/www.eproc.Karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.R.E.D Division, Madhugiri

DIPR/TUM/1154/KSMCA/2022-23

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : WRD/KWA-CE(SR)/TR/7902/2022_5_1_1/1, **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** - 2022-23- CWSS to 13 Panchayaths based on Malankara Reservoir - (Package-I)-(a) Design, Construction of floating Pump house at Malankara Reservoir in Muttom Panchayath at Idukky District., (b) RAW WATER PUMPING MAIN FROM Well Cum PH at Malankara to Boosting Station at Vallippara, Vallippara to Mattathippara Jn (Pothichottupara) - 1000mm DI-K9 and 1000mm MS Pipe, (c) Valve chambers and Pipe Line Bridge Works, (d) Construction of 27 LL Capacity Sump and boosting Station at Vallippara at Muttom Panchayath, (e) Construction of Transformer Building near Boosting station at Vallippara, (f) Reconstruction of fully damaged roads due to the laying of raw water pumping main, drain works, (g) Other related works. **EMD :** Rs. 5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs. 16540+(2978) GST, **Last Date for Submitting Tender :** 17-04-2023, 03:00 pm, **Phone :** 0481 2562745. Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Kottayam
KWA-JB-GL-6-1916-2022-23

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : WRD/KWA - CE(SR)/TR/ 7902/2022_5_2_1/1, **Jal Jeevan Mission -** CWSS to 13 Panchayaths based on Malankara Reservoir (1) Design, and construction of 45 MLD Water Treatment Plant (Lamella type), (2) Clear Water Sump etc at Neeloor, (3) Supplying and Laying part of RWPM from Pothichottupara to WTP at Neeloor, (4)Supplying and Laying 150mm DI K9 Pumping/Conveyance main(s) from WTP at Neeloor to GLSR at Njallikunnu, (5) Supplying and Laying 450mm/200mm DI K9 Conveyance lines from WTP, (6)Supplying and Laying 700 mm DI K9 Gravity Main from WTP to Sump cum Pump house at Vettipparambu etc. **EMD :** Rs. 5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs. 16540+(2978)GST, **Last Date for Submitting Tender :** 12-04-2023, 03:00 pm, **Phone :** 0481 2562745. Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Kottayam
KWA-JB-GL-6-1912-2022-23

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
O&M Circle Office, Chikkamagalur. Ph: 08262 - 295513
CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

NO: SEE/O&M/CKM/EE/AEE/AE/2022-23/14937-41 DATE: 18.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

MESCOM desires to invite tender for Repairing of different capacity failed distribution transformers under **"Buy Back Scheme"** at transformer repair centre, Chikmagaluru Town.

The interested eligible bidders may log on to website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **24.03.2023** for more information.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.), O&M Circle, MESCOM, Chikkamagalur

For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹಬ್ಬುವಾಡಾ–ಕಾರವಾರ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ –581 301.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08382–228935 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 229735 e-mail: eerdwsd.uk@gmail.com
ನಂ: ಕಾಸಿಇಂ/ಗ್ರಾಕುನಿ&ನೈವಿ/ಕಾರವಾರ/ಐಬಿ–1/ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್/JJM/2022–23/2560 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.03.2023

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ//ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಖರೀದಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾನೂನು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ **2000** ಹಾಗೂ **Standard Tender Document KW-3** ನಂತೆ ತತ್ಸಂಬಂಧ ಕಾಲಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾದ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಆದೇಶಗಳನ್ವಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಆಡಳಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದಂತೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು: (1) INDENT 55788/CALL-3 (2) INDENT 55778/ CALL-3 (3) INDENT 55794/ CALL-2 (4) INDENT 56715/CALL-2 (5) INDENT 55793/ CALL-2 (6) INDENT 55783/CALL-2 (7) INDENT 55782/CALL-3 (8) INDENT 55893/CALL-3 (9) INDENT 55781/CALL-3 (10) INDENT 57954/CALL-2 (11) INDENT 57981/CALL-2

(1) Downloading of document through e-proc portal: **20.03.2023 to 26.03.2023 up to 16.30 Hrs.** (2) Time & date of Pre-Bid Conference: **23.03.2023 Time : 11.30 Hrs.** Venue: O/o. Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division Po: Habbuwada, Karwar- Uttara Kannada Dist. (3) Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids: **26.03.2023 Time: 16.30 Hrs.** (4) Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening: **27.03.2023 Time: 17:00 Hrs.**(5) Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening: Will be informed technically qualified bidders after approval of Technical Bid.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು
DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/1192/22-23 dt.20.03.2023 ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ (ಉ.ಕ. ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ)

ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
4ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, 16ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಂಪಂಗಿರಾಮನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560027.
ಫೋನ್ & ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 080–22240448 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: dswourban@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಜನಿ.ಸ.ಕ.ಇ/ಬೆಂ(ನ)/ಲೆಕ್ಕ/ಟೆಆರ್–6/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–03–2023

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ **ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುವಾರು (ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ, ದಕ್ಷಿಣ, ಪೂರ್ವ ಮತ್ತು ಆನೇಕಲ್)** ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ / ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಪೂರ್ವ / ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ನಂತರದ / ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳ / ಆಶ್ರಮ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಹ ಅಂಗೀಕೃತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರಿಂದ / ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ / ಅರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಅಂಗೀಕೃತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **24–03–2023 ರಿಂದ 05–06–2023 ರವರೆಗೆ** ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, 4ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, 16ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಂಪಂಗಿರಾಮನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560027** (ದೂರವಾಣಿ: **080–22240449** ಹಾಗೂ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**ನ್ನು ಪರಾಮರ್ಶಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/5411/ಆಡ್ಮಿನ್ಸ್/2022–23

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Executive Engineer, K.R.Sagara Division, K.R.Sagara

Tender notification No: 32/ 2022-23 Dated: 10-03-2023

The Executive Engineer, K.R.Sagara Division, K.R.Sagara, Srirangapatna Taluk, Mandya Dist. on behalf of the Managing Director CNNL Mysore has invited tender through e-procurement **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for the work **Providing Improvement works to Dam Appurtenant Structures, Electrification to Dam Top, office buildings and Approach Road -(Civil) of K.R.S. Dam World Bank aided DRIP-Phase-II. (Package-3)** Any further information or clarification for the above said work including last date, opening date, Pre-bid meeting date, EMD, etc., can be obtained from above mentioned office during the office hours & from the above said website.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
K.R. Sagara Division, K.R.Sagara.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, **Fax No.** 080-22133365
Email ID: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Tender Notification No. 67/2022-23
Dtd- 21.03.2023

Item-rate tenders, for the work in Dodaballapura Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per e-procurement procedure. Tender Notification are Published for 01 works **(Rs. 60.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in E-procurement portal.** Eligible contractors interested in tendering for the work may apply for the tender through e-procurement.

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from **Dated: 21.03.2023 onwards**.

2) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 16:00 hours on dated **28.03.2023**

3) The opening of tenders through e-procurement portal on dated **29.03.2023 at 16.30 hours** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details can be had from e-procurement portal **(http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
DIPR/CP/5423/Zen/2022-23 **PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)/MNG/EE(O)/AEE-2/2022-23/7667-75 Date: 21.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement portal only)

KPTCL invites Tenders for the following works:

(1) Tender No. **KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT10431/CALL-2.** for Creating 33kV reference by installing 1x20MVA, 110/33kV Transformer at 110 kV Moodabidre Sub-Station in Moodabidre Taluk, D.K. District Under Partial Turnkey Basis (CALL-2).

(2) Tender No. **KPTCL/2022-23/INDENT2370 (SHORT-TERM)** for design manufacture supply, Supervision of erection, Testing and commissioning of one set 220V DC, 300AH plante type Battery set along with stand & accessories conforming to KPTCL specificationas for 220kV Station, Netlamadnur in TL&SS Division, Kavoor, Mangaluru under buy back scheme (SHORT -TERM TENDER).

The Blid will be recived through electronic tendering mode only, The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the e-Procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in on hyperlink "e-procurement-KPTCL" or to https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **25.03.2023.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele.,
Transmission (W & M) Circle, KPTCL,
Maroli, Kulashekhara, Mangaluru-570 005.
Ph.(O): 0824-2211342 Fax: 0824-2217597

(Public Works Department)
Executive Engineer, Chikkaballapura Division, Chikkaballapura.

Invitation for Short-Term Tender (I.F.T.)
No.: 63/2022-23 Date: 15.03.2023

(For Road and Building Works -As per Standard Bidding Document K.W.-3 in two cover system)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000, the Undersigned invites Tenders in two cover system through e-procurement portal from eligible Contractors registered in PWD. Those interested in participating in the tender can submit the tenders from 1**7.03.2023 to 24.03.2023 up to 4.00 p.m. (1)** Last date for objections-doubts and clarifications: **23.03.2023 (at 3.00 pm during office hours).** **(2)** Last date for submission of filled tenders: **24.03.2023 (up to 4.00 pm). (3)** Date of opening Technical Bid: **27.03.2023 (up to 4.30 pm). (4)** Financial Bid will be opened after approval of Technical Bid. For more information visit website **www.kpwd.gov.in** or contact this office during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.W.D. Chikkaballapura Division, Chikkaballapura.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ584/ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2022–23

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

THE MYSORE PAPER MILLS LIMITED
Paper Town, BHADRAVATI-577 302, KARNATAKA.
CIN: L99999KA1936SGC000173 (03.06.2014)
Phone: +91-8282-270094/ Fax: +91-8282-270937
E-mail: dirforestsmpm@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS FOR SALE/DISPOSAL OF ACACIA HYB.EUCALYPTUS, PINES PULP WOOD FULL QUANTITY

E-Tender No.: MPM/FFR/DF/RM/22-23/032 Dt: 16.03.2023

***) Material Description:** Debarked Acacia Hyb **Quantity in MT:** 100000

***) Material Description:** With Bark Eucalyptus **Quantity in MT:** 20000

***) Material Description:** With Bark Acacia Hyb above 8'thk **Quantity in MT:** 3000

***) Material Description:** Debarked Pines **Quantity in MT:** 3000

***)Material Description:**With bark Pines **Quantity in MT:** 3600

Last date & time for Bid Submission: 02.05.2023 at 17.00 Hrs.

MPM intends to sell 1,26,000 MT(Approx) of above said standing crop of Pulpwood is being tendered through e-Procurement portal of Government of Karnataka: https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in Cost of document: As per e-portal norms. Blank tender documents can be downloaded from e-procurement portal; http:// mpm.karnataka.gov.in. website. Any changes / amendments to this tender will be published in the e-procurement portal/ MPM website only.

Sd/- APCCF & Director (Forests)i/c

DIPR/smg/No.185/03/mca/22-23/2221

The old and the new

A combination of the features of the two pension schemes seems prudent

The Union Finance Ministry's reiteration in the Rajya Sabha recently, of the legal position, i.e., the absence of any provision to allow the accumulated corpus of members of the National Pension System (NPS) to be "refunded and deposited back" to States, should have a deterrent effect on those States contemplating a return to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). The Ministry's stand reflects what the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Act, 2013, the PFRDA (Exits and Withdrawals under the National Pension System) Regulations, 2015, and other regulations say. The Centre has also been making it clear, for the right reasons, that it is not considering any proposal to restore the OPS. As experts and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) point out, the annual saving in fiscal resources that a reversion to the OPS entails is short-lived. The potential fiscal benefit would be overtaken by the huge liability later in the form of pension payment. The former RBI Governor, D. Subbarao, even called the idea "regressive", with more privilege for government servants than the public, many of whom have no social safety net.

However, the issue refuses to die down, as government employees or those in government-controlled enterprises have been fighting for it. Be it Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh or Karnataka, staff have struck work, demanding, among others, the re-introduction of the OPS. But their concern about the uncertainty over the amount of pension under the NPS is genuine as they are justified in aspiring for a quality retired life. The NPS, despite being PFRDA regulated, is a market-linked and defined contribution product, while the OPS is a defined benefit pension scheme, where beneficiaries generally get 50% of their final salary, and the whole cost is borne by the government. So, the flat rejection of the demand for the OPS would only exacerbate the situation. It is time that the Centre formulated a scheme that combines features of the old and the new. While retaining the element of employees' contribution, the scheme can have higher contributions by the government, which should also step in if the returns do not ensure the prescribed minimum pension amount. A proposal by Andhra Pradesh last year deserves attention. Holding on to the contributory character of the NPS, the proposal guarantees 33% of basic pay. If required, it can be improved upon to suit the requirements of other States too. Better health facilities that include a liberal insurance scheme can be considered. On their part, the employees should be both pragmatic and willing to resolve the issue.

Righting a wrong

Aboriginal people must get permanent representation in government

Australia is on track to reckon with a dark chapter in its history after its Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, made a promise to bring to its voters a referendum to constitutionally recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, thereby giving them permanent representation in the government, even if only in an advisory capacity. The specific subject of the proposed referendum, to be held later this year, is the Voice, a representative Indigenous body in the Australian Parliament, which would provide non-binding advice to Parliament on policy subjects that impact First Nations communities. As a representative mechanism, the hope is that the interests of the Indigenous people would be better addressed: as a social category they tend to be overrepresented in official figures on shorter life expectancy, higher rates of infant mortality, poorer physical and mental health, lower levels of education and employment, and higher rates of child removals, suicides, and community and family violence. However, despite the Voice proposal enjoying close to 59% public support (a recent poll), there are pockets of political resistance, including, ironically, from prominent Indigenous leaders such as Country Liberal Party Senator Jacinta Price. Ms. Price has expressed concern over wording which says that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice "may make representations to the Parliament and the Executive Government of the Commonwealth", which she says elevates the Voice to a level surpassing a Cabinet Minister and potentially risks challenges to legislative decisions in the courts. Other Indigenous leaders favour a different prioritisation of approaches, for example, first agreeing on a treaty between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, which would recognise that the former's lands were never ceded to the "invaders".

At the heart of the referendum proposal is the idea of reconciliation, however politically fraught it may be. Since European colonisation in 1778 of "*Terra nullius*", or "nobody's land", it took around 200 years for the government to express regret for the "Stolen Generations", which ripped the fabric of Indigenous society. It was also only in the late 2000s that the Australian government formally signed the "Close the Gap Statement of Intent", that committed to achieving better health and life expectancy outcomes for Indigenous peoples. The longer these national wounds are left to fester, the harder it would be to bridge and heal them. In this context, no matter what the political objections to and modalities of the Voice referendum are, the Albanese government would do well to pursue the process to its logical conclusion and give every Australian the opportunity to speak up for how they believe social harmony can be achieved for their nation.

A climate change survival guide to act on

Navroz K. Dubash
is Professor at the Centre for Policy Research

Parth Bhatia
is Associate Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research

This week, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the synthesis report of its Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) cycle, drawing together key findings from its six most recent reports. The report gains added legitimacy as its summary for policymakers is approved line-by-line by governments of the world. The United Nations Secretary General has called it a 'survival guide for humanity'. The report can shape our collective response in this critical decade, which may be make-or-break for humanity, and is likely to be the last IPCC report for a few years.

Some takeaways

The report confirms that human activity is 'unequivocally' driving global temperature rise, which has reached approximately 1.1° C above pre-industrial levels. While the rate of emissions growth has slowed in the past decade, humanity is estimated to be on a 2.8° C(2.1°-3.4° C range) trajectory by 2100. This temperature rise has already led to rapid and widespread impacts on climatic systems. It flags that "For any given future warming level, many climate-related risks are higher than assessed in AR5". This new realisation underpins the considerable attention in the IPCC report to trajectories that constrain global warming to 1.5° C rather than 2° C. This relative focus on 1.5° C has two implications.

First, the amount of carbon that the world can cumulatively emit before reaching key temperature limits, i.e., the world's 'carbon budget', is far lower for the 1.5° C than the 2° C target. Modelled global pathways suggest that limiting warming to 1.5° C (with a probability of >50% requires greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to be reduced by 43% by 2030 (median estimate), while the same number for limiting warming to 2° C (probability of >67%) is 21%. Strikingly, it notes that the projected CO2 emissions over the lifetime of existing fossil fuel infrastructure without additional abatement already exceed the remaining carbon budget for 1.5° C.

Striving for a 1.5° C target implies deep and immediate reductions in emissions in all sectors and regions, which makes more salient different national circumstances and questions of climate equity and operationalisation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's core principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility and Respective Capabilities. The IPCC report points out that humanity had already consumed 4/5ths of its total carbon budget for 1.5° C by 2019, with developed economies consuming the lion's share.

The Inter governmental Panel on Climate Change AR6 synthesis report is a sobering account of present and future damages to ecosystems

The report also notes that existing modelling studies, which are often used to assess emission trajectories, do not explicitly account for questions of equity. While from an impacts point of view, it is important to aspire to a 1.5°C target, the correspondingly lower carbon budget heightens questions of equity and who bears the responsibility for achieving these ambitious targets.

Second, the recognition of greater risks at lower temperatures points to the necessity of early climate adaptation. The report highlights that adaptation itself has limits, which implies that some losses and damages of climate change are inevitable. For example, the report finds that some coastal and polar ecosystems have already reached hard limits in their ability to adapt to a changing climate. The effectiveness of some of the adaptation options that are feasible and effective today (such as urban greening and restoration of wetlands) decreases with increasing warming. Importantly, the report cautions against certain forms of adaptation such as poorly planned seawalls – dubbed maladaptation – which can defer and intensify the impacts of climate for short term and often iniquitous adaptation gains. It also argues that at higher levels of warming, climate change could lead to cascading risks such as food insecurity, leading to migration, which are intensely challenging to manage. A logical corollary of these findings would be that because countries cannot entirely develop their way out of climate risk and vulnerability, mitigation remains essential.

The key message

So while the diagnosis is dire, what of the prognosis?

The leading message of the report is that of urgently adopting 'climate-resilient development' – a developmental model that integrates both adaptation and mitigation to advance sustainable development for all. If this sounds like aiming high, that is because it is; countries no longer have the luxury of focusing on adaptation or mitigation or even development alone.

The report assesses the plethora of technologies and design options, such as solar energy or electric vehicles, that can help countries reduce emissions or become more resilient today at low costs, and in a technically feasible manner. It also points to the fact that there are more synergies than trade-offs between mitigation and adaptation actions and Sustainable Development Goals, although it warns against paying inadequate attention to these trade-offs. Prioritising and addressing equity and social justice in transition processes are shown to be key to climate-resilient development. The report strikes a particularly upbeat note on the co-benefits of climate action for air quality. A cost-benefit analysis suggests that the air quality and health benefits of mitigation outweigh its costs.

While a climate-resilient development pathway is the journey, the destination is net zero emissions at the global level. If sustained, net-zero GHG emissions will result in a gradual decline in global temperatures. However, this may be contingent upon significant carbon dioxide removals, which are challenging to achieve at scale.

Progress report

How is the world doing in this regard? The report finds some tangible evidence of progress in the proliferation of laws and policies, and confirms the effectiveness of existing policy tools such as regulations and carbon markets. A promising, yet potentially unsung story is that of policy packages, which are a coherent and comprehensive set of policies tied to a particular policy objective that can help countries meet short-term economic goals.

At the same time, several gaps remain in humanity's response so far. The report points out that there are gaps between modelled sustainable pathways and what countries have pledged (ambition gaps) as well as substantial gaps between what countries pledge and what they actually do (implementation gaps). Delayed action risks locking-in to high carbon infrastructure in this decade, and creating stranded assets and financial instability in the medium term. Therefore, high upfront investments in clean infrastructure are imperative. However, despite sufficient global capital, both adaptation and mitigation financing need to increase many-fold: between three to six times for annual modelled mitigation investments, from 2020 to 2030. The report, thus, paints a picture of progress and innovation in the face of inadequate ambition, implementation, climate finance and investment despite the cost-effectiveness of several response options.

The IPCC AR6 synthesis report is a landmark report because it offers a blueprint for sustainable development, while presenting a sobering account of present and future damages to ecosystems and the most vulnerable amongst us. It is now up to governments and people of the world to act.

No slander please, they are our freedom fighters first

C.R. Kesavan
is a former member of the Prasar Bharati Board

March 23 is a milestone in the history of India's Independence struggle. It was on this day, in 1919, that Mahatma Gandhi was in Chennai on the invitation of Kasturi Ranga Iyengar. Gandhiji had hitherto been struggling to find a way to counter the draconian and recently enacted Rowlatt Act by the British. It was in the early hours that day that he dreamt of the idea of a mass hartal to counter the Act. The Satyagraha of April 6, 1919 was an act of defiance that brought the nation to a standstill and shook the foundations of the Raj.

Many may still be unaware of this pivotal moment and its importance in our history despite Gandhiji describing it in his autobiography, in the chapter, 'That wonderful spectacle'.

Thread of selfless zeal

Many such moments of indomitable courage, insurrection and sacrifice which have left their imprint on the freedom struggle have never got their due. The 1857 rebellion is called the First War of Independence. But the many spirited revolts against the British Empire in South India prior to this, such as the Attingal revolt, the Poligar rebellion and the Vellore Mutiny are scarcely mentioned. The central government's 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' initiative, to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of freedom, has endeavoured to honour such unsung mileposts and icons.

With its thread of selfless nationalistic zeal, India's independence movement was a crucible that coalesced people from contradictory and even conflicting backgrounds and ideologies.

In the early 20th century, it pitted the moderates, who trusted constitutional methods, against the extremists, who preferred boycott and revolution. Thus the Lal-Pal-Bal triumvirate and Aurobindo underwent rigorous imprisonment, while the valorous Bhagat Singh, Birsa Munda and Vanchinathan sacrificed their lives.

There were also the icons, Gopal Krishna Gokhale and B.R Ambedkar, who served in the British Viceroy's executive council and were probably never imprisoned. But this in no measure dilutes or even diminishes their patriotism and contributions to India's freedom.

India's independence movement was a melting pot that had freedom fighters from contradictory and even conflicting backgrounds and ideologies

The intrepid Subhas Chandra Bose valiantly raised an army overseas to free India, a venture where he worked with Japan, an Axis power. The patriots Bhikaiji Cama, Shyamji Krishna Varma, Chempakaraman Pillai and Thillaiyadi Valliammai championed the cause of India's liberty from abroad, but can their methods, motives or love for India be questioned?

The situation today

It is a matter of regret that in the recent political discourse in India, leaders and organisations are being slotted, stigmatised and even slandered for their role or the lack of it in the freedom movement.

V.D. Savarkar is one such figure. Yet, in a letter dated May 30, 1980, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi wrote to to Pandit Bakhle, then Secretary of the Swatantrya Veer Savarkar Rashtriya Smarak: "Veer Savarkar's daring defiance of the British Government has its own importance in the annals of our freedom movement. I wish success to the plans to celebrate the birth centenary of this remarkable son of India." There needs to be an understanding of the era before indulging in coarse criticism.

Jawaharlal Nehru's tryst with Nabha jail, in September 1923 – he was arrested along with K. Santhanam and Acharya Gidwani – is a lesser known episode. Nehru was released on signing a bond that he would never enter the princely State of Punjab. When Gidwani was arrested again later, Nehru wrote in his *An Autobiography*: "I took shelter behind the advice of friends, and made of it a pretext to cover my own weakness. For, after all, it was my weakness and disinclination to go to Nabha Jail again that kept me away, and I have always felt a little ashamed of thus deserting a colleague. As often with us all, discretion was preferred to valour".

Gandhiji himself supported the British in the bitter Boer war, or the South African war. He was later awarded the Kaisar-i-Hind medal, in 1915, by the British for his humanitarian work in South Africa, which he later returned in 1920. The moderates in the Congress supported the 1919 Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms in the immediate aftermath of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. In 1942, C. Rajagopalachari stayed away from the Quit India Movement as he felt it would not serve India's best interests.

View history holistically

Could all these examples above be deemed to be perfidious? History should be looked at holistically instead of becoming an exercise where there is selective denunciation and nit-picking.

The Congress party did play a pre-eminent role in India's freedom movement, but this struggle that spanned over two centuries is not the fiefdom or sole preserve of any one person or establishment.

"*Janani Janmabhumishcha Swargadapi Gariyasi*" is a hemistich of a Sanskrit shloka from the Ramayana which broadly means 'Mother and motherland are superior even to heaven".

Our gallant freedom fighters did not plunge into their battle against the British for pelf, position or power, and they certainly did not know whether they would live to see the next day. They were fallible humans who assessed circumstances and arrived at decisions with the sole aim of liberating their motherland.

It is easy to sit on the high chair of hindsight and make sweeping judgements about history. To impugn individual patriotism while viewing it through the coloured spectacles of concocted binaries is not only regressive but also wrong.

In the 76th year of India's Independence, every Indian is beholden to express unreserved gratitude to all, especially the unsung luminaries of our freedom struggle who were devoted to the national cause. This should transcend any ideological inclination or political proclivity that they professed or practised in their later lives.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Diplomatic signal

If the Delhi police have removed barricades around the British High Commission in what is perceived to be a tit-for-tat move after the vandalism of the Indian High Commission in London, it is only a reflection of the failure of Indian diplomacy and shows the country in a bad light. The British government should have acted more carefully but for India to send out this signal could cause a chill.

Thacius S. Fernando,
Chennai

Method of execution

The effort of the Supreme Court of India to explore an alternative to execution by hanging is to be appreciated. At the same time, it must be said that the more painless the execution, there could be less of a deterrent to commit heinous crime. The severity of the pain is what may keep people away from committing such crimes.

K.G. Balachandran,
Edappally, Ernakulam, Kerala

All methods to carry out the death penalty are barbaric. The executed do not come back to reveal the extent of pain suffered. When the exercise is akin to slaughtering, where is the question of dignity except that it is carried out as punishment within legal provisions. Even among the pronounced judgments for death penalties, very few are implemented in this land, which shows that courts value lenience. Who knows what greater deterrence on crimes there would be once the maximum penalty is done away with?

Sanath Kumar T.S.,
Thrissur, Kerala

Travel on ECR

I am visiting Puducherry for a few weeks, having arrived from Paris on March 20. I wish to recount my road travel experience on one of Chennai/Tamil Nadu's top roads, the East Coast Road. I left Chennai airport in a taxi for Puducherry and was shocked at the state of this highway. It was a bone-rattling, neck pain-causing ride, with my taxi driver having to swerve many times to avoid potholes and craters. The condition of what is a trunk road has left me very surprised.

Mathéo Matisse,
Puducherry

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Is India in the grip of a 'stray dog' crisis?

Meghna Uniyal

is Director and Co-founder, Humane Foundation for People and Animals

Shailaja Chandra

is former Chief Secretary of Delhi

PARLEY

In recent weeks, there have been many attacks by stray dogs on people, especially children. With an estimated 1.5-6 crore stray canines roaming around the streets in India, questions are being raised about the implementation of municipality laws and cultural attitudes of tolerance towards stray dogs. In a conversation moderated by **Jacob Koshy**, Shailaja Chandra and Meghna Uniyal map the scale of the public safety issue and provide legal and administrative context. Edited excerpts:

Is there a stray dog crisis in India? And is this a problem unique to India?

Meghna Uniyal: First, some context. This is not an Indian problem; it is very much a global issue. And this is primarily because of our relationship with dogs. We like dogs, we want to keep them and they breed prolifically.

Globally, supply always tends to exceed the demand for dogs. As a result, the surplus animals end up on the streets. The difference (between countries) lies in how we address the problem. The U.S. has a zero-tolerance policy for stray dogs and up to three million dogs and cats are euthanised every year. In India, we allow those animals to end up on the streets, and leave them there. This is in violation of our laws. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA Act), which is the principal Act for the protection of animals, recognises that dogs are domestic animals, suffer on the streets due to homelessness and also impact human beings, and they should therefore be sheltered, re-homed, removed or euthanised. Our State Municipal Acts, which are meant for the protection of people, also mandate capture and removal, and say they should be sheltered, re-homed or euthanised. Historically, euthanasia was done in a crude, haphazard manner. Municipalities would catch dogs and use the cheapest methods of killing them, such as electrocution, gassing or poisoning. So, the problem became about how these animals could be humanely captured, and our laws implemented in a systematic and logical manner. Now, we have gone from mass killing and employing crude, horrific methods to the other end of the spectrum, which is that we leave all of them on the road. Stray dogs are being identified as community dogs and are now considered part of the community akin to squirrels or birds.

Without human supervision and control, dogs will go back to the feral state, which is what we are seeing on the streets. A dog is a loyal animal and thinks 'this is my house, I'm being fed here.' Naturally, these large packs of dogs are becoming territorial and aggressive about public spaces where they are fed.

Stray dogs in Puducherry. KUMAR S.S.

Municipal authorities had the power to euthanise unclaimed street dogs. The 2001 Animal Birth Control Rules took these powers away by creating a category called 'street dogs' as opposed to 'strays'. The PCA Act, while barring cruelty, doesn't restrict municipalities from euthanising 'strays'. How did we end up with laws at cross-purposes?

Shailaja Chandra: Municipal corporations are governed by State Acts, but there is also the Ministry of Urban Development (MUD), which is supposed to bring together the policy and technical aspects. Municipalities are expected to provide assistance in technical matters to States, which in turn give such information to the MUD. The MUD, however, is heavily involved in activities such as construction and sewage management. It does not have the bandwidth or interest to get into sections of laws (governing street animals). The Municipal Acts have rigorous provisions for the containment of the menace caused by street dogs, but these are ignored by officers who generally take their cue from the political milieu in which they operate. The political milieu takes its cue from what the greater number of people seem to believe today, which is that you are doing good to the animal and you are doing '*punya*' (a charitable act for good karma). The general sense is that stray dogs are a public good. Politicians take a cue from this and municipal authorities take a back seat. Municipal bodies can bring matters under control if they want to, but they will not do it because they have no political push.

But it is also common to see people moving around with sticks and thrashing these animals. So, there seems to be a fair bit of public anger.

> The most fecund and the most prolifically breeding population would have to be sterilised; sick animals, aggressive animals, etc. would have to be euthanised; a segment of the population can be sheltered, and so on.
> MEGHNA UNIYAL

MU: This is not only an issue of how nobody follows any laws and the municipalities don't do what they're supposed to do. Our laws are there both for the welfare of the people as well as dogs. Laws for the protection of people and animals say that stray animals should be removed from public places, and sheltered, re-homed or euthanised. People do take out a lot of their anger on the animals. When you pit people against dogs and end up giving stray dogs the same rights as your children, retaliatory attacks on these animals increase because there is no way for people to otherwise protect their families physically. So, now we are seeing increasing stray dog attacks inside gated communities and in hospital premises.

The PCA Act is an animal welfare-based legislation, which lays down that animals can be used, owned, managed and even killed but in a humane manner. So, the law is looked at from the lens of human rights. It doesn't give rights to animals; it vests in us the duty to protect them from unnecessary suffering. But today, we have the Act and a set of subordinate rules that are meant to enforce the Act but make it redundant.

If the power to euthanise strays were restored to, say, municipalities, would it bring down numbers?

SC: Citizens will not accept euthanasia, even in the case of terminally ill animals. This would have to be built into people's thinking. When your premises are a breeding ground for mosquitoes, municipal corporations levy a fine. If you have somebody polluting the water with chromium plating or electroplating, you get shut down. However, authorities do nothing of the kind when it comes to dogs which bite and cause rabies. This is a public health responsibility, which is a part of a municipal responsibility that ought to be overseen by the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare in the States and at the Centre.

It is out of the question that Indian society will accept euthanasia. What we can do is to follow certain principles which have been agreed upon, but even those have been thrown to the winds. The courts have said there should be designated places for dogs to be fed and that these should be defined by municipal [bodies] and the Animal Welfare Board and the local Resident Welfare Associations. This sounds good. But these three bodies are unlikely to come together for thousands of streets, societies and colonies in a State or in a city. And even if designated places are found, who is going to monitor that this is being observed?

MU: It's only a small minority of vocal people who make it sound like we don't kill anything, which is not the case at all. But having said that, euthanasia or sterilisation cannot be the only answer to the problem. For instance, the most fecund and the most prolifically breeding population would have to be sterilised; sick animals, aggressive animals, etc. would have to be euthanised; a segment of the population can be sheltered, and so on. We have to recognise what the Act says, and that is that dogs are domestic companion animals and must be treated as such. They have no role ecologically or otherwise on the streets and in public places without human supervision. This is the starting point of all dog control in the country.

We recently had an update to the Animal Birth Control Rules. Do they work towards solving any of these issues?

MU: Under the new ABC Rules, stray dogs are not even 'street' dogs; they are 'community' dogs. So, just the name has been changed.

We see that the brunt of the stray dog problem is borne by the poorest, given their disproportionate representation in dog-bite and child-mauling instances. Does something have to be done so that the crisis has more political resonance?

SC: It is the duty of officials to implement the law and of legislators to amend or modify a law if it is not working. Neither has been done. Unless politicians are shown that they are allowing this to go on under their noses, it will not have any effect. Looking at the plethora of cases reported periodically in the press, this story has been going on for 10 or 15 years in the courts. Sometimes the courts give a draconian order; the next day that order is stayed. It is high time that the courts stop the ambivalence, and the law is just interpreted in black and white. And this means the Municipal Corporation Act, and not the Animal Welfare Board Rules.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The burden of a family court

Seven judges in the only family court in Mumbai try to cope with cases of divorce, maintenance, child custody and alimony

Sonam Saigal

As a court reporter, I often visit the only family court in Mumbai for stories. As you can imagine, it receives a lot of divorce applications. The most common grounds for divorce are domestic violence, adultery, and dowry. But sometimes, sifting through these depressing cases, one can also find more absurd factors that end a marriage. Once, a man sought a divorce claiming that his wife was a spendthrift. His lawyer said that his client's wife had spent ₹6 lakh to lose weight, but had failed in her efforts. The man, who had fallen in love with her and married her 14 years earlier, had had enough and sought a divorce. Marriages may be made in heaven, but they are broken on earth.

Judges in family courts hear not just cases of divorce, but also of maintenance, child custody and alimony. They are mandated to first suggest counselling to unhappy couples who want to end their marriage. On any given day, around 50 litigants come to the family court. One day, there were tens of people milling around as usual, impatiently waiting for the judge to enter court and start hearing their cases. About three hours later, a Bollywood actor with her actor brother-in-law come out of the judge's chamber. The judge had passed the divorce decree (order) which had been pending for a few days, while the cases of some of those waiting outside were pending for months or even years. As the Supreme Court itself once remarked, there are two 'parallel systems' of justice in India – one for the influential and one for the rest.

The court is also where one sees heightened emotions: anger, blame, heartbreak, relief, joy. Estranged parents meet at the children's complex. While one of them is given custody of the child, the other gets visitation rights only in the court premises. One day, once COVID-19 cases reduced considerably, I saw the joy of a four-year-old daughter as she let go of her mother's hand and ran towards her father who she hadn't seen for nearly two years because of the pandemic. During the lockdown, the number of pleas filed by non-custodians to see their children via video calls increased. While technology was no substitute for physical time spent with loved ones, non-custodians simply had no other access.

And in the midst of drama, there is also empathy. Last week, the Bombay High Court judge inaugurated a lactation room at the Bandra family court. Swati Chauhan, principal judge at the family court, whose idea this was, said many women came to the court with their infants. Away from their messy child custody crossfires and divorce duals, these women needed to feed their children. The room would serve as a refuge for them, she said.

Recently, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that over 5,000 divorce cases are pending in the family court in Mumbai. While there are cases before the family courts with serious complications, there are also many cases where couples refuse to let go of their grudges and file frivolous applications and counter-applications. This then leads to an increase in litigation and consequently adds to the pendency of cases. No one benefits from this approach; children especially suffer. But judges are unable to do anything in such cases.

Family courts were constituted to provide a forum for speedy settlement of family-related disputes. The emphasis is on a non-adversarial method of resolving conflicts and promoting conciliation. While the seven judges at the family court strive to do this, they are not enough. The family court needs more judges. Mr. Fadnavis has promised that 14 additional family courts will be set up in Mumbai, along with one each in Thane and Navi Mumbai. This is a welcome, much-needed move.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Cleaning clothes in an unclean river

A man washes clothes on the banks of the river Gomti on March 22, observed as World Water Day, in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. Despite crores of rupees being spent on beautification, toxic pink foam floats on the river due to high levels of industrial pollution. SANDEEP SAXENA

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO MARCH 24, 1973

Antarctic frozen for over 20 million years

New York, March 23: Oceanographic exploration has determined that Antarctica has been a frozen continent for at least 20 million years, three to five times as long as had been previously thought. Core samples taken by a ship, "Glomar Challenger," also confirmed the theory that Australia broke away from Antarctica some 50 million years ago and had been drifting northward a few inches a year ever since. The samples also uncovered traces of natural gas components in sediments beneath the sea-floor near the Antarctic shores.

These findings were announced at a news conference on Thursday by Mr. Dennis E. Hayes of Columbia University. Mr. Hayes and Mr. Lawrence A. Frakes of Florida State University were scientific co-chiefs of the Antarctic expedition.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MARCH 24, 1923

Miscellaneous

London, March 22: Robert William Church, described as an examining Engineer in the employ of the Railway Board in India, was charged at Bow Street Police Court today with an offence against the Indian Penal Code, by having as a public servant taken gratification other than legal remuneration in respect of an official act.

From Page One

Rahul gets two-year jail term in defamation case

On Thursday, the former Congress chief quoted Mahatma Gandhi and tweeted, "My religion is based on truth and non-violence. Truth is my God and non-violence is the means to get it – Mahatma Gandhi". On his arrival from Surat, Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) chief leader and his mother Sonia Gandhi visited his 12 Tughlak Lane residence. Maintaining that the order of Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court was "full of errors and legally unsustainable", Rajya Sabha member and senior Supreme Court advocate Abhishek Singhvi asserted that the Congress would appeal against the order and was hopeful of getting a stay on the conviction from a higher court.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi accused the Congress of "insulting" every institution and recalled how Mr. Gandhi had torn an ordinance that the Manmohan Singh government had brought to deal with situations like the present one that result in immediate disqualification.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla's office didn't issue any formal statement on the issue but a "courtesy call" on Mr. Birla by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Mr. Joshi created a buzz in political circles.

Sources claimed the Speaker's office will take note of the development only when the Surat court's order is officially communicated; the order will be legally vetted before a final decision on the disqualification issue is taken.

India rejects J&J patent extension on TB drug

Bedaquiline is a crucial drug in the treatment of multi-drug resistant TB patients for whom the first-line drug treatment has stopped working. Since 2007, J&J had indulged in 'evergreening' – a strategy to extend the life of patents about to expire in order to retain revenues from them – by making multiple claims in its applications for patent extensions.

When the firm filed for evergreening of its patent on fumarate salt (a formulation salt of Bedaquiline), the practice was challenged by TB survivors Nandita Venkatesan and Phumeza Tisile.

"We filed a patent challenge in 2019, because we wanted to ensure that safer, oral and efficacious drug Bedaquiline was available to all people who need it. Ms. Venkatesan told *The Hindu*.

Our attempt to break the monopoly of a pharma company over this life saving drug has been successful," Ms. Venkatesan said.

T.N. Assembly re-adopts Bill against online gambling

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Assembly on Thursday re-adopted the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Bill, 2022, moved by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.

The Bill (No. 53 of 2022) was tabled again after Governor R.N. Ravi returned it on March 6, saying it went against the Constitution and court judgments. The Bill was first adopted on October 19, 2022.

This is the second time the Assembly has re-adopted a Bill returned by the Governor. On February 8 last year, a Bill to exempt the State from NEET was re-adopted.

The AIADMK spoke in favour of the Bill, but the MLAs, led by former Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami, walked out when it was taken up for voting. They reasoned that the splinter group of just four MLAs was allowed to speak on the Bill. BJP floor leader Nainar Nagenthran said that his party was supportive of the Bill.

Govt. tapping technology to secure ancient scriptures for future: Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said the government was securing the knowledge in India's ancient scriptures and manuscripts for the future through technology.

Inaugurating the 'Vedic Heritage Portal' created by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) here, Mr. Shah said that with the help of this, the younger generation would be able to carry forward the knowledge and tradition of the Vedas and the Upanishads.

The IGNCA comes under of Ministry of Culture.

Mr. Shah also inaugurated a virtual museum 'Kala Vaibhav' based on 64 arts, through which, he said, the world would be more familiar with India's architecture, painting, drama, music, and thereby the rich history of the country's glorious culture.

The portal is a one-stop solution for common users and researchers seeking any information regarding Vedic heritage. It gives detailed information about oral traditions, textual tradition in form of published books/manuscripts, or implements, the IGNCA said.

Amid ruckus, LS passes Union Budget without discussion

The Budget envisages an expenditure of ₹45 lakh crore for the fiscal year starting April 1; the House is likely to take up the Finance Bill, 2023 today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Thursday passed the Union Budget without any discussion as the Opposition continued protest over its demand for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into the Adani issue.

The Lower House functioned barely for six minutes in the first half before Speaker Om Birla adjourned it until the post-lunch session. Similar scenes were witnessed at 2 p.m when the House resumed as the Opposition members trooped into the Well demanding a JPC and the Treasury benches matching the demands with slogans asking Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to apologise for his remarks in the U.K. Following this, the House was adjourned again.

When the House reconvened at 6 p.m., the Opposition's amendments to the government's spending plan were rejected by voice vote. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharman then moved the Demands for Grants for 2023-24 and the relevant Appropriation Bills for discussion and voting. The Speaker then applied guillotine and put the Demands for Grants of all Ministries for voting which were passed, amid sloganeering by the Opposition.

Tug of war: Lok Sabha members protesting in the House during the second phase of Budget Session on Thursday. ANI

Though the Business Advisory Committee had granted approval, no discussion could take place on the Ministries of railway, rural development, health and family welfare, panchayati raj, tribal affairs and, tourism and culture.

The Speaker applying guillotine to get the Demand for Grants passed is significant with speculation rife that the Budget Session might end early. Both Houses have failed to function in the second leg of the session due to protests by the Opposition and Treasury benches.

The House is likely to take up the Finance Bill, 2023 on Friday. With the passage of the Bill, tax proposals announced in the Budget would be passed. The Budget envisages an expenditure of around ₹45 lakh crore for the financial year starting April 1. The total expenditure is estimated at ₹45,03,097 crore, of which total capital expenditure has been pegged at ₹10,00,961 crore.

EC should clarify doubts on EVMs, say Opposition parties

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

With a little more than a year left for the Lok Sabha election, the Opposition parties on Thursday decided to come together to draft a joint memorandum asking the Election Commission to settle the questions raised over the credibility of electronic voting machines (EVM).

This decision was taken at a meeting of the Opposition parties hosted by Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) patriarch Sharad Pawar. The Congress, the Samajwadi Party, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Janata Dal (U), the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray), the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Communist Party of India, the Indian Union Muslim League, and the Kerala Congress (Mani) attended the meet. The Trinamool Congress, which is the second largest Opposition party in Parliament, skipped the meeting.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, senior BRS leader Keshav Rao, who was present at the meeting, said, "Over the past eight years, several questions have been raised on the working of EVMs. The Election Commission so far has failed to settle these doubts. So it is high time that they provide us with answers."

Sharad Pawar

It was also decided that the Opposition would have to carry out a sustained campaign against the EVMs and other electoral malpractices.

'Opaque system'

"None of the leading democracies in the world use EVMs, because it is an opaque system. If they can rely on ballot paper the question is why should we alone be an exception," CPI general secretary D. Raja said.

Several leaders also pointed out that a wrong narrative had been set by the ruling BJP that it was the Opposition alone that raised doubts about working of the EVMs. "Truth is that the voters have little trust in EVM. So the EC is bound to give answers to the voters," another leader said.

Dhankhar fails to broker peace in RS, says both sides have taken a rigid stand

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

With the second part of the Budget Session likely to be a complete washout, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday said "the two sides in the House have taken a rigid stand" and if a way out has to be found out of this deadlock, then the entire House must interact amongst themselves.

Mr. Dhankhar has held three rounds of meetings with the floor leaders; the last one being on Thursday morning. All like-minded Opposition parties skipped the two meetings on Tuesday. In a last ditch effort, Mr. Dhankhar called the floor leaders again at 10 a.m. on Thursday. The meeting, according to sources, was again inconclusive.

The government was represented by Leader of the House Piyush Goyal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi. Both, according to sources, insisted that if Lok Sabha MP Rahul Gandhi apologised for his alleged "anti-India" remarks made during his London tour, the House can run smoothly.

> The two sides have taken a rigid stand. I appeal to the entire House that they must interact amongst themselves and find a way out
>
> **JAGDEEP DHANKHAR**
> RAJYA SABHA CHAIRMAN

No assurances

Responding to this the Congress, which was represented by the party's deputy leader Pramod Tiwari and chief whip Jairam Ramesh, and the other Opposition leaders said the issue on hand was their demand for a probe by a Joint Parliamentary Committee into the investments made by the SBI and the LIC in the Adani Group. To this, as per sources, the BJP members said they had nothing to hide, though at the same time, they did not give any assurance about forming such a committee.

Mr. Goyal also said that there was "absolutely no reconciliation possible".

Later, speaking in the House, Mr. Dhankhar said, "We are not sending a good message to the people, at large, from this Upper House."

Naveen, Mamata affirm their commitment to a robust federal structure

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee met her Odisha counterpart, Naveen Patnaik, at the latter's residence here on Thursday. Both leaders affirmed their commitment to a robust federal structure in the country.

The meeting comes at a time when the possibility of revival of a Third Front is being hotly debated. However, Mr. Patnaik termed it nothing more than a courtesy call.

"Federal structure of India should remain permanent and strong. There was no in-depth discussion on serious political matters as it was a courtesy call," Mr. Patnaik said after the meeting held at his residence Naveen Niwas.

"We maintain good relationship. It is golden legacy. What Naveen*ji* said of federal structure, I strongly support and appreciate.

Mamata with Naveen Patnaik

The federal structure should be very strong and strengthened. We have discussed about safety and democratic rights and nation's safety," Ms. Banerjee said.

Asked if discussions were held on political alignment, Ms. Banerjee said the elections were a year away and that her political views were her own.

Ms. Banerjee is scheduled to meet former Karnataka Chief Minister and Janata Dal (S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy in Kolkata on Friday.

NIA conducts searches in 3 States in terror module case

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday conducted searches in three States - Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat - in an ongoing investigation into the 'Ghazwa-e-Hind' alleged terror module that was busted in Bihar last year.

According to the agency officials, raids and searches were carried out at the houses of eight suspects in Maharashtra's Nagpur (four locations), one location each in Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat's Valsad, Surat and Botad districts, and incriminating materials, including digital devices (mobile phones, memory cards) and documents were seized.

In July 2022, a case was registered in Bihar against members of the 'Ghazwa-e-Hind' module, which was being operated and controlled from Pakistan.

COVID-19 vaccine precautionary dose uptake stands at 27%

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

Despite the high coverage of primary COVID vaccination (97%) and second dose (90%), India's precautionary dose uptake stands at 27% (as on March 23, 2023), according to data released by the Union Health Ministry.

India has been currently registering a rise in new COVID-19 cases and now contributes to 1% of the global surge tally that has the U.S. (19.2%), Russia (12.6%) and China (8.3%) in the lead.

The Union Health Ministry maintained that Omicron and its sub-lineages continue to be the predominant variants with no evidence of an increase in hospitalisation and/or mortality.

"All currently circulating variants are sub-variants of Omicron," Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said.

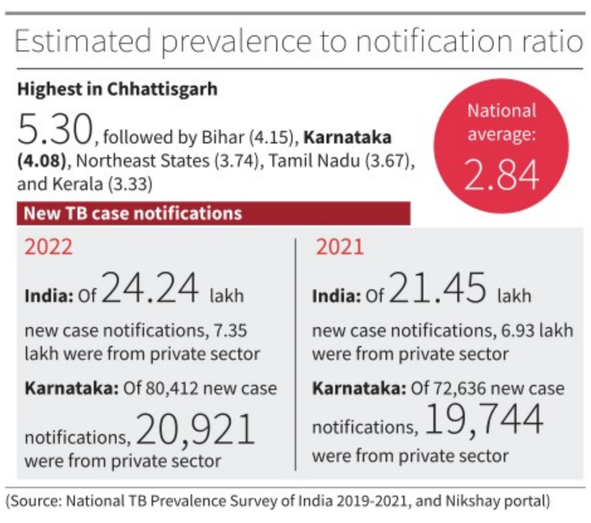
According to experts, as the virus becomes endemic, it generates a large number of variants, he said, adding, "Since the emergence of Omicron in 2021, close to 1,000 lineages have been assigned, which include approximately 100 recombinant variants."

Tuberculosis prevalence to notification ratio in Karnataka is far higher than national average

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

At 4.08, Karnataka's estimated tuberculosis prevalence to notification (P:N) ratio is far higher than the national average of 2.84. This means for every notified case of the highly infectious disease, the actual prevalent number of cases in Karnataka is 4.08. March 24 is observed as World TB Day.

According to the National TB Prevalence Survey of India 2019-2021, the first of its kind in the country in 55 years, Chhattisgarh (5.30) had the highest P:N ratio, followed by Bihar (4.15), Karnataka (4.08), Northeast States (3.74), Tamil Nadu (3.67), and Kerala (3.33).



(Source: National TB Prevalence Survey of India 2019-2021, and Nikshay portal)

The P:N ratio is an important aspect, which explains for each case notified, how many TB cases go undetected. This is a critical parameter to evaluate how effective States are at detecting and notifying TB cases. The higher the ratio, the more the number of cases that are being missed out.

Another startling finding was that nearly 52% of the patients did not seek healthcare in Karnataka. They either ignored their symptoms or did not recognise them (symptoms) or indulged in self-treatment. Overall, nearly 64% of patients did not seek healthcare in the country. While the highest was from Haryana (88%), the lowest was from Kerala (46%).

While over half of all tuberculosis (TB) patients seek care in the private sector, case notifications from the private sector are way behind the targets set by the government. In 2022, there were 24.24 lakh new TB case notifications in India, of which only 7.35 lakh were from the private sector. Karnataka reported 80,412 case notifications in 2022 of which only 20,921 were from the private sector. Although this is a marginal rise from the 19,744 reported in 2021, private notifications have never crossed 37% of the target set by the government. Karnataka reported a total of 72,636 case notifications that year.

TB has been a notifiable disease in the country since May 2012. Despite awareness regarding mandatory TB notification, a significant number of private practitioners do not report the cases. Missing cases which are lost to follow up are one of the prime reasons for quick spread of the infection.

After incentivising private notifications, the Union Health Ministry, for the first time criminalised non-reporting of TB in early 2018.

State Deputy Director (TB) Anil S. said private notifications are gradually increasing over the years. "Althoug many patients do not want to reveal the infection mainly because of stigma, the State's efforts to detect TB are being intensified.

Rule of law will prevail, says BJP on Rahul's conviction

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ravi Shankar Prasad

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday slammed the Congress's criticism of the conviction of Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi in a 2019 criminal defamation case by a Surat court, asking whether the Opposition party wanted the leader to have "complete freedom to abuse" others.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP's headquarters here after news broke of Mr. Gandhi's conviction and sentencing for two years in a case of criminal defamation, former Law Minister and BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad hit out at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for questioning the court's order by reportedly noting that there were several changes in the judges hearing the matter.

"Does the Congress want Rahul Gandhi to have complete freedom to abuse people? There is rule of law in the country and it will prevail," he said.

'Respect judiciary'

Mr. Prasad said such comments showed that the Congress did not believe in the judiciary. "Does it want to keep even the judiciary in its pocket?" he said.

He also invoked senior BJP leader L.K. Advani's experience to urge more respect for the judiciary. "Despite being Deputy Prime Minister, Advani*ji* went to court, BJP leaders faced cases. Government was of the NDA but cases against BJP leaders weren't withdrawn," Mr. Prasad said.

Speaker's call

Asked whether the Congress leader would be disqualified from the Lok Sabha, Mr. Prasad said it was for the Speaker to decide.

Mr. Prasad said that Mr. Gandhi's comments had insulted people whose surname was Modi. He asserted that it was certainly defamatory, adding that Mr. Gandhi was insulting people by citing their caste.

Will fight the battle legally and politically, says Congress

Mallikarjun Kharge to convene a meeting of floor leaders of like-minded parties today and march down to Vijay Chowk; the Opposition is also likely to submit a memorandum to the President

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Police officers stopping Congress workers during a protest in Lucknow against the conviction of Rahul Gandhi on Thursday. PTI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday held a meeting with 30 senior leaders at his residence to discuss the situation arising out of the conviction of former party chief Rahul Gandhi by a Surat court in a defamation case.

They also deliberated on the subject of whether Mr. Gandhi should attend Parliament or stay away until he gets a relief from a competent court.

Following the meeting of leaders at Mr. Kharge's residence, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh announced that the Congress president would convene a meeting of floor leaders of like-minded parties at 10 a.m. on Friday and, thereafter, they would march down to Vijay Chowk.

Mr. Ramesh said the Opposition parties have also sought time from the President of India to submit a memorandum and in the evening, the Congress chief would meet with the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chiefs and Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leaders to chalk out next steps.

"We will fight this battle legally with all the rights and remedies we have but this is also a political fight and we will take them head on," Mr. Ramesh said.

Taking to Twitter, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said, "A scared machinery of power is trying to suppress the voice of Rahul Gandhi through saam, daam, dand, bhed (every trick in the book). My brother has never been afraid, nor will he ever be. He has lived his life speaking the truth, will continue to speak the truth, will continue to raise the voice of the people of the country".

In a tweet in Hindi, Mr. Kharge said, "Coward, dictatorial BJP government is incensed at Rahul Gandhi and Opposition because we are exposing their misdeeds and demanding a JPC. Under its political bankruptcy, the Modi government sends police and the ED [Enforcement Directorate], and imposes cases on political speeches."

Supreme Court advocate and Congress leader Abhishek Singhvi said, "Make no mistake... All your [the government] attempts to create a chilling effect, a throttling effect, a strangulating effect on open fearless speech relating to public interest, will not stop either Shri Rahul Gandhi or the Congress Party."

Pointing out flaws in the court order, Mr. Singhvi argued that the basic principle of a criminal defamation law requires defamatory statements to be against a specific person but Mr. Gandhi's was a generic statement and didn't have any malafide intent as required to be prosecuted under the law.

He also questioned the Surat Court's jurisdiction as the statement was made in Kolar (Karnataka). "Without meaning to be tactical, there is an established provision, which has been expounded and elaborated by several Supreme Court judgements, called Section 202, precisely created to prevent mischievous prosecution complaints in areas without jurisdiction, where no cause of action has arisen. Clearly, Kolar speech has no connection with Surat," Mr. Singhvi said.

> Non-BJP governments and leaders are being made victims of conspiracies. This is a matter of concern for democracy and politics of the country... There is no value of democracy in front of 'dhantantra'
>
> **HEMANT SOREN**
> Jharkhand CM and JMM president

> Rahul Gandhi should also be booked for insulting national icons like Veer Savarkar and defaming the country abroad
>
> **SHEETAL MHATRE**
> Shiv Sena spokesperson

> We have differences with the Congress, but it is not right to implicate Rahul in a defamation case like this... It is the job of the public and the Opposition to ask questions. We respect the court but disagree with the decision
>
> **CLYDE CRASTO**
> NCP spokesperson

> BJP leaders are saying that Rahul Gandhi must learn a lesson from his conviction by Surat Court... The same applies to motormouths of the BJP because our Judiciary is Supreme, and it will catch up with them too, sooner rather than later
>
> **ARVIND KEJRIWAL**
> Delhi CM and AAP leader

> Defamation of the country, defamation of the public, defamation of harmony, defamation of the Constitution, defamation of the economy. Don't know how many types of defamation cases should be filed against the BJP
>
> **AKHILESH YADAV**
> Samajwadi Party president

> It's highly deplorable & unprecedented that a leader like Rahul Gandhi is convicted for a comment which he himself said was not made with a blameworthy mind
>
> **M.K. STALIN**
> T.N. Chief Minister

Differing views emerge on MP disqualification

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's conviction and sentencing in a 2019 defamation case by a court in Gujarat has put a question mark over his continuation as a Lok Sabha MP.

Experts have differing views on whether the conviction and sentencing means immediate disqualification or the Wayanad MP gets time if he appeals.

According to the Section 8(3) of the Representation of the People (RP) Act, 1951, which guides the disqualification of a legislator, the moment a Member of Parliament is convicted of any offence and sentenced for at least two years, she or he attracts disqualification.

Constitutional law expert P.D.T. Achary says the disqualification is directly linked to the quantum of sentence and since the Surat court has suspended Mr. Gandhi's sentence for 30 days, the disqualification process is also on hold for the same period.

Lily Thomas case

However, according to former Chief Election Commissioner S.Y. Quereshi, since the court has suspended the sentence and not the conviction, the disqualification according to the RP Act and its interpretation by the Supreme Court in the *Lily Thomas* case is automatic.

Experts differ on whether conviction means immediate disqualification or if Rahul gets time in case he appeals

In 2013, the court in the *Lily Thomas* case had struck down Section 8(4) of the RP Act that gave a convicted lawmaker the power to remain in office on the grounds that appeals have been filed within three months of conviction.

The disqualification, however, would be formalised only when the Lok Sabha Secretariat issues a notification saying that the seat has fallen vacant and subsequently the Election Commission (EC) orders elections to the seat again.

Sources in the Lok Sabha secretariat told *The Hindu* that there is no move as of now to issue a notification declaring Mr. Gandhi's seat vacant and they are waiting for a formal complaint.

The secretariat is understandably moving cautiously after the recent case of Lakshwadeep MP, P.P. Mohammed Faizal.

The NCP MP was convicted by a court in Lakshadweep in January, but a week later, the Kerala High Court suspended the conviction and said his disqualification as a Lok Sabha member would no longer be valid. Mr. Faisal immediately challenged in the Supreme Court the Election Commission's decision to announce a by-poll in his constituency. Following this, the Law Ministry recommended the reinstatement of the MP.

Experts also quote the Supreme Court judgment in the 2018 *Lok Prahari* case, which said, on appeal if the conviction is suspended then the disqualification will also remain suspended.

Another option which is available for the MP is approaching the President. Says Mr. Achary, as per Article 103 of the Constitution, the disqualification case of an MP will be decided by the President in consultation with the Election Commission.

Congress MLAs stage protest in Jharkhand

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Congress legislators in Jharkhand on Thursday protested in the Assembly over party leader Rahul Gandhi's conviction in a 2019 criminal defamation case over his "Modi surname" remarks. They held the BJP "responsible for the judgment".

The Congress MLAs trooped into the Well while shouting slogans like "*BJP ki Hitlersahi nahi chalegi* [BJP's Hitler-like rule will not work]". Congress legislator Pradip Yadav raised the issue in the House and slammed the BJP.

"Is it a crime to raise one's voice in a democracy? BJP has strangled democracy and is making an attempt to snatch the right to freedom of expression in the country but it will not be allowed. We condemn it", said Mr. Yadav. Other Congress MLAs too echoed the same and joined him in protest.

The BJP MLAs too raised their voice against the Congress MLAs and stormed into the well.

Later, Speaker Rabindranath Mahto adjourned the House. The Congress is in alliance with the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and the RJD in Jharkhand.

Show of solidarity in Rajasthan

Press Trust of India
JAIPUR

Rajasthan Congress workers led by State unit president Govind Singh Dotasra held a protest outside the party's headquarters here on Thursday in solidarity with party leader Rahul Gandhi.

Addressing the Congress workers, Mr. Dotasra said Mr. Gandhi fearlessly puts forth his views while fighting the battle of truth.

He said Mr. Gandhi was firm on his views and instead of apologising like Savarkar, he was ready to face the legal battle in his quest for justice.

Rahul Gandhi mismanaged leadership tussle in Assam, says Ghulam Nabi Azad

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, in his upcoming autobiography *Azaad*, has spoken about how Rahul Gandhi had "mismanaged" the leadership tussle in Assam between former Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who joined the Bharatiya Janata Party after rebelling against Mr. Gogoi.

The book, that promises to reveal several back room stories and humorous anecdotes, will be launched on April 5. However, the publisher, Rupa, has put out an excerpt of the episode in the invite to the formal launch.

"When we arrived at Rahul's residence the next morning, we saw Tarun Gogoi and his son, Gaurav Gogoi, sitting with him. Rahul told us bluntly that there would be no change in leadership. We pointed out to him that Himanta had the majority of MLAs and would rebel and quit the party. 'Let him go,' Rahul said. The meeting was over," Mr. Azad is quoted as saying in the book.

".. I am not sure if Rahul said this to assert himself or because he was ignorant that his decision would have far-reaching consequences, not only in the State of Assam but the entire Northeast," noted the author.

His autobiography *Azaad*, which promises to reveal back room stories and humorous anecdotes, will be launched on April 5

'Sonia didn't assert herself'

The former Congress veteran, who has worked with several Prime Ministers including Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, P.V. Narasimha Rao and Dr. Manmohan Singh, then wrote how he called on the then Congress chief Sonia Gandhi to "apprise her of the twist in the tale".

"Despite understanding the disastrous consequences that lay ahead, it is rather unfortunate that she did not assert herself as the party president. Instead, she asked me to request Himanta to not rock the boat," he says.

In August last year, he had severed his nearly five decade long association with the Congress over his difference with the leadership regarding the functioning of the party and launched his Democratic Progressive Azad Party in Jammu and Kashmir.

Drunk flyers held for misbehaving on flight

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Two passengers travelling on a Dubai-Mumbai IndiGo flight were arrested by the Mumbai police for allegedly abusing and misbehaving with the crew and co-passengers on board in an inebriated condition on Wednesday.

The two accused passengers were granted bail by a local court, the police said.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
No.:CE/HWDI/ACCTS-26/22/96 Date:21.03.2023
Name of the Work: "Third Party Inspection & Quality supervision/control/ assurance for the works: (1) Development of Storage plot near JSW Wagon Tippler inside Harbour area (2) Development of Plot Near BOT Railway Bulb and Gate No.1 approach inside Harbour area". EMD Cost: **Rs.Nil.** Last Date and time of submission of Bid: **11.04.2023 up to 17:15 Hrs.** For details please refer our Website: eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
Sd/-Executive Engineer
Harbour Works Division No.-I
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/234/2022-23 dtd.23.03.20223

BHARAT DYNAMICS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise, Ministry of Defence)
Corporate Office, Hyderabad - 500 032
Ref:BDL/CC/OT/GT/13/2022-23 Date : 24.03.2023
e-PROCUREMENT ABRIDGE TENDER NOTICE
Inviting Competitive Bidding

S.No.	Tender ID	Description
1	65205	Engagement of Insurance Intermediary as per IRDA broking regulation for management of insurance portfolio for BDL

Please visit website **https://bdltenders.abcprocure.com**, select offline tenders on dashboard for further details. Bids should be submitted offline only.
"Corrigendum if any shall be issued through our e-portal only and not in Newspapers"
*Bidders are Requested to apply for online Vendor Registration in BDL website **http://172.25.1.64/bdldesign/login.php** for business prospects.
Deputy General Manager (Corp Comml)

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND/DPR-05/99/2022-23 **Date: 21.03.2023**
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e–Procurement Portal Only)
KIADB invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the formation of **New Industrial Areas including Economic Analysis, Surveying, Layout Plan Design, Preparation of Cost Estimates, Cost Structure etc., for the proposed Phase-2, Baddanguppe Industrial Area, Chamrajnagara District.**
The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **11.04.2023 upto 04:30 pm**
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 2
DIPR/CP/JA/5426/2022-23

Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
No. 13381 / Date 21.03.2023
Phone no. 0674-2431253, e-mail : info@bmc.gov.in
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
×YXXX-BMC/-689/2023
On behalf of the Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), Executive Engineer (Sanitation), BMC invites tenders through e-Procurement in conformity with terms and conditions of the tender document in Two Bid System (Part-I): General & Technical Bid and Part II: Financial Bid /Price Bid/BOQ) from intending bidders fulfilling the eligibility criteria and other qualifying requirements mentioned in this tender document for **"Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Camera with allied systems and accessories & providing comprehensive Annual Maintenance service for a period of 3 years"**. Each bid should be submitted online through the website **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** by eligible bidders. The bidders should have necessary portal enrolment (Digital Signature Certificate) under e-procurement process of Govt. of Odisha in required class/category . For queries, if any on this tender document, intending bidders may Contact Executive Engineer (Sanitation) / Deputy Commissioner (IT), Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Bhubaneswar.
The indicative technical specification for procurement of Camera with all allied system and accessories is provided under 1.3.16 of the bid document.

Event	Timing
Period of availability of tender document for bidding in the e-procurement portal of Govt. of Odisha https://tendersodisha.gov.in	From 24.03.2023 (Time 11:00 AM) to Dt. 17.04.2023 (Time 5:00 PM)
Pre-Bid Conference	12:00 noon on 03.04.2023 at the 4th Floor Conference Hall of new BMC Building, Opposite of Kali Temple, Satya Nagar, Bhubaneswar- 751007
Receipt of requests for clarification dc-it@bmc.gov.in and swmpmubmc@gmail.com	Latest by 5:00 PM on 03.04.2023
Bid Submission Deadline through online mode in https://tendersodisha.gov.in	Dt. 17.04.2023 till 5:00 PM

2. Other details can be seen in the bidding document available in website **tendersodisha.gov.in** (for view, download and bidding) and in BMC Website **www.bmc.gov.in** (for view and download only).
3. All amendments, Clarifications, time extension etc. will be uploaded in the website only. Bidders should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updated.
4. Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof subject to the limitations prescribed by Central Vigilance Commission.

By Order of Commissioner, BMC
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Sanitation),
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
C-2717 OIPR-13002/11/0251/2223

INBRIEF

Kashmir observes first day of Ramzan amid confusion

A majority of people observed the first day of Ramzan in the Kashmir Valley on Thursday by fasting from dawn to dusk, amid a controversy over the sighting of the new moon. A confusion prevailed in the Valley on Wednesday night following the announcement made by Kashmir's grand mufti Nasir-ul-Islam that the new moon was not sighted anywhere in Kashmir. He asked people to observe fasting from Friday. However, the Anjuman-e-Sharian Shian, a religious body, said it received confirmation of the moon sightings and asked people to fast from Thursday. Hundreds of locals took to the mosques in defiance of the grand mufti and arranged special Ramzan prayers on Thursday night.

Manish Kashyap's supporters detained during bandh call

Supporters of YouTuber Manish Kashyap, the mastermind behind Tamil Nadu migrant's row, were detained on Thursday during the Bihar bandh call given by them protesting against his arrest and demanding his release. They blocked the national highways in many districts and hampered the traffic movement in Patna. Mr. Kashyap's supporters burnt tyres and blocked the Bihta-Aurangabad road and shouted slogans against Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. The YouTuber is charged with creating panic by spreading fake videos on social media about Bihari migrants being allegedly attacked in Tamil Nadu.

MoD signs contracts worth ₹3,700 cr. for radars for IAF

The Defence Ministry on Thursday signed two contracts with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), at a total cost of over ₹3,700 crore for 'Arudhra' Medium Power Radars (MPR) and Radar Warning Receivers for the Indian Air Force (IAF). The ₹2,800-crore contract for Arudhra radars has been indigenously designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and will be manufactured by BEL. "Its successful trials have already been conducted by the IAF," a Ministry statement said. The second contract relates to 129 DR-118 Radar Warning Receivers at a cost of ₹950 crore.

J&K doctors felicitated for handling delivery amid quake

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has felicitated the doctors and the staff who were captured in a video performing a surgery in spite of the earthquake and power outage on Tuesday evening, at south Kashmir's Sub-District Hospital in Bijbehara. In the video, the staff is seen performing the surgery on a pregnant woman with tables and lights shaking around. The panic-stricken staff could be seen reciting prayers as the electricity goes off in between. The doctors, however, maintained their cool and decided to go ahead with the surgery. The video was widely circulated by the netizens in Jammu and Kashmir.

One conviction for unsafe sewer work so far, govt. tells panel

Centre says it is monitoring 616 such cases; data shows 1,035 deaths from hazardous sewer cleaning since 1993, kin of 836 given full compensation

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Union government has informed a Parliamentary Standing Committee that FIRs have been registered in 616 cases where contractors had not provided safety gear and equipment to sewer workers. Among the cases registered under the Manual Scavenging (Prohibition) Act, one conviction has been secured so far, the government said.

The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment made these submissions before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment, which in a report tabled in both Houses on Thursday, said that the implementation of the MS Act must be done strictly and that errant contractors should be "immediately held and convicted".

Expedite transition: The panel sought setting up a timeline for enumerating workers under the NAMASTE scheme. FILE PHOTO

The government submitted before the House panel that a total of 1,035 people had died in India due to hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks since 1993, and families of 836 victims have been given the full compensation of ₹10 lakh.

When asked about what action was being taken against contractors who were failing to provide safety gear to the workers, a representative of the Social Justice Ministry said that the Union government's responsibility in this regard was to ensure the registration of FIRs.

Meanwhile, on the recently announced NAMASTE scheme (National Action Plan for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem), which proposes to spend ₹350 crore over the next three years, the panel urged the government to set up a timeline for enumerating the workers.

Panel questions low expenditure for two scholarship schemes

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The pre-matric scholarship scheme saw an expenditure of just ₹56 lakh in the financial year

In the first nine months of the financial year 2022-23, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was able to spend only 1% of its allocation for a pre-matric scholarship scheme for Scheduled Caste students and others; and less than half the amount allocated for a post-matric scholarship scheme for SC students, government data submitted before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment showed.

In its report on the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment's Demands for Grants for 2023-24, tabled in both Houses on Thursday, the House panel also pointed out that under the PM-YASASVI scheme, which provides for pre- and post-matric scholarship benefits to Other Backward Classes, Extremely Backward Classes, and Denotified Tribes, just a little over 2% of the more than ₹1,500 crore allocation had been spent, as of December 31, 2022.

The committee further noted that in the case of the post-matric scholarship for SC students, the government had been able to spend just ₹2,500.22 crore of the allocated ₹5,660 crore until December 31, 2022.

In the same time period, the actual expenditure on the pre-matric scholarship scheme for SC students and others was just ₹56 lakh out of the ₹500 crore allocated.

New system

The low expenditure in the schemes for SC students was due to delays caused by a new disbursement mechanism for Centrally-sponsored schemes which require State contributions, the panel noted. However, the PM-YASASVI scheme also saw low utilisation even though it is 100% supported by the Union government.

Dargah razed in Mumbai after MNS 'ultimatum'

Shoumojit Banerjee
PUNE

Less than 24 hours after Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray sought the demolition of an allegedly illegal *dargah* or Muslim saint's shrine off the Mahim coastline in Mumbai, the State government swung into action with the Mumbai civic administration launching a demolition drive on Thursday.

The government action came after Mr. Thackeray, during his rally in Mumbai's Shivaji Park on Wednesday had warned that his party would not tolerate any "illicit constructions" of religious structures by the minority community. Mr. Thackeray then delivered an ultimatum to the government and the Mumbai Police Commissioner, warning that if they did not pull down the structure, MNS activists would do it themselves and build a Ganesha temple in its lieu.

However, Opposition leaders cast aspersions on the swiftness of the demolition.

SC to hear pleas against polygamy and *nikah halala*

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court said on Thursday it would set up a fresh five-judge Constitution Bench at an "appropriate stage" to hear pleas challenging the constitutional validity of polygamy and *nikah halala* among Muslims.

A Bench comprising Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and Justices P.S. Narasimha and J.B. Pardiwala was urged by lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay, who has filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition on the issue, that Section 494 of the Indian Penal Code allows polygamy, *halala* etc., and needs to be struck down.

While polygamy allows a Muslim man to have four wives, *nikah halala* deals with the process in which a Muslim woman, who wants to re-marry her husband after divorce, has to first marry another person and get a divorce from him after consummation.

U.P.'s 'missing' sarus crane that's stirred up a hornet's nest in the State's politics

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

On March 21, the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department visited Mohammed Arif Khan to relocate a sarus crane, the State bird, from his home at Mandka village in Amethi to Raebareli's Samaspur Bird Sanctuary. The bird, which Mr. Khan claims he found injured and lying unconscious in his fields last year, had taken a shine to the family after they took care of it for over two months.

"After treatment I thought it would fly away. We took it to the fields, but the bird refused to leave us. He was like family to me, and we ate and lived together," said Mr. Khan.

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav had visited Mr. Khan to witness the bonding. A day after the bird was taken to the sanctuary, Mr. Yadav, in a tweet, claimed that the bird was missing. He tagged a media report which quoted the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Rupesh Srivastava as saying this. "Such government negligence towards the State bird of U.P. is a serious matter. The BJP government should immediately find the sarus," Mr. Yadav wrote in Hindi.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav with Mohammed Arif Khan and the sarus crane. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. Khan, on March 22, sat with the SP president in a press conference in Lucknow where Mr. Yadav alleged that in the name of freeing the State bird, the administration took away the sarus crane from the person who was his family. "It remains to be seen what action is taken to free the bird from the one who feeds it," said the SP chief at the press meet targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi who had posted pictures feeding a peacock.

However, the administration said this was untrue and the whereabouts of the bird were clear. Mr. Srivastava told the media that the bird was seen in the sanctuary on Thursday and is not missing.

'Amritpal promoted gun culture, had links with drug dealers'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Fugitive Amritpal Singh was encouraging gun culture in Punjab and facilitating criminal gangs while operating under the guise of a religious preacher, according to security agencies. They said that he was launched by foreign elements inimical to Indian interests.

The police crackdown on 'Waris Punjab De' and its chief, Mr. Singh, is aimed at taking stringent action against elements who were involved in disturbing peace and communal harmony in the State, said an official.

"Although the accused projected himself as an anti-drug crusader, as it turns out a car used by him had been gifted by a drug dealer named Ravel Singh. When in Dubai, he was in touch with Jaswant Singh Rode, whose brother Lakhbir Singh Rode is the head of International Sikh Youth Federation and is involved in smuggling drugs into India," the official said.

'Illegal smuggling'

Stating that the accused gave his own interpretation of religion to his advantage, another official privy to the ongoing probe, said Mr. Singh targeted "aimless" youth to exploit their sentiments in the name of religion.

The agencies suspected that on the pretext of running drug de-addiction centres, the accused planned to set up hideouts and storehouses for the weapons illegally being smuggled using drones from across Pakistan.

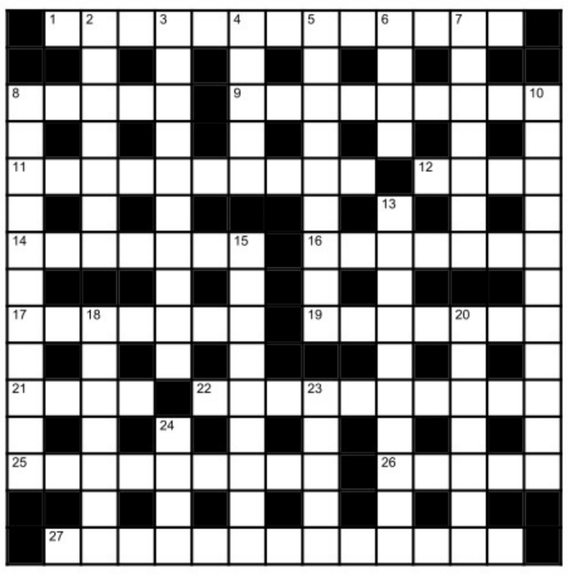
The allegations against Mr. Amritpal Singh are also that he spoke against the Constitution, issued threats to Union Home Minister Amit Shah and the Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, after the Ajnala incident. The agencies have been keeping a close watch on the social media activities of his sympathisers.

TH CROSSWORD + 13821

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Atones with a sorry note in correct way of achieving objective (1,5,2,2,3)
8 Revised topic relating to vision (5)
9 Alcoholic drinks limiting stern criminal's vigilance (9)
11 Miserly person's hoard in fancy casket (10)
12 Run away with female for good fun (4)
14 Retired couple touring Thailand fight in public (7)
16 Annulet in fairground, elegant (7)
17 Director does nothing about primarily dirty swindles (7)
19 Put off by American president in broadcast (7)
21 Impresario wants to tour American state (4)
22 Boldness of couple of criminals concealing identity (10)
25 Apply a lotion and cream to be cured (9)
26 Where one might see studs from east involved in flings (5)
27 How a person with concussion might be conceited (7-6)

Down

2 Couple beginning to snuggle inside rug, getting most intimate (7)
3 Reasonable move after champion captures c-pawn (10)
4 Spank groom's butt in bed (5)
5 Obvious ruse perhaps in opening moves (9)
6 Wild model picked up by star in retreat (4)
7 Wanted to protect student getting harassed (7)
8 Individual consuming cocaine at noisy inn turned ecstatic (2,5,4)
10 Large snakes chasing domestic animals around climbing frames (11)
13 Miserable and sick, tucking into most impudent woman's Mexican dish (10)
15 Isolated perhaps to contain primarily contagious strain (9)
18 Complete expression of wonder, taking in new boy's violin stroke (7)
20 Been long, desperately wants good raise (7)
23 Fine woman upset about son becoming impudent (5)
24 Unflustered, talk amorously with lady (4)

SUDOKU

	6				9			7
1		4	3			9		6
				1			3	
				7		3		
			3	9	4	8	7	
			7			1		
	8			5				
2		5			6	4		3
9			1				2	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

No.SS5747 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

C	E	S	S	P	O	O	L	■	S	C	R	O	L	L
E	■	I	■	O	■	R	■	A	■	E	■	R	■	O
L	O	C	A	L	■	I	G	U	A	N	O	D	O	N
E	■	K	■	I	■	G	■	P	■	T	■	E	■	E
B	A	L	A	C	L	A	V	A	■	R	E	R	U	N
S	■	E	■	E	■	M	■	I	■	A	■	■	■	E
■	T	A	I	C	H	I	■	R	O	L	L	O	N	S
U	■	V	■	O	■	■	■	■	A	■	R	■	S	
P	F	E	N	N	I	G	■	H	O	M	A	G	E	■
P	■	■	■	S	■	E	■	A	■	E	■	A	■	A
E	X	A	C	T	■	N	E	U	T	R	I	N	O	S
R	■	I	■	A	■	T	■	L	■	I	■	L	■	T
C	E	R	E	B	E	L	L	A	■	C	H	O	I	R
U	■	E	■	L	■	E	■	G	■	A	■	F	■	A
T	A	R	G	E	T	■	N	E	O	N	A	T	A	L

Solution to Wednesday's Sudoku

3	2	9	1	4	5	6	7	8
8	6	1	9	3	7	4	5	2
4	7	5	6	2	8	9	1	3
5	8	6	2	9	3	1	4	7
9	4	2	7	1	6	8	3	5
1	3	7	8	5	4	2	6	9
6	9	4	3	7	2	5	8	1
7	1	8	5	6	9	3	2	4
2	5	3	4	8	1	7	9	6

FAITH

The two friendships

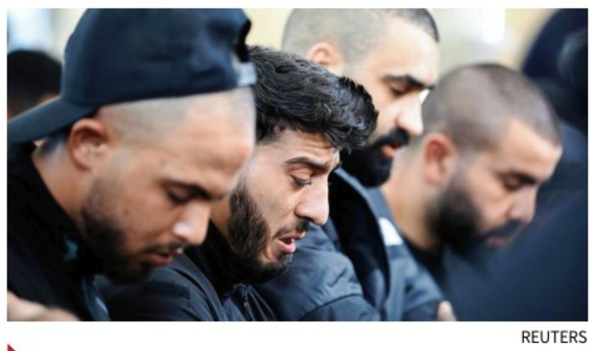
God has taken the manifestation of Nara and Narayana at Badrikasramam to save people. Asuras are several types and their way of asking boons will also be as many kinds. The asura Dambodhbhava had undergone rigorous penance and got a unique boon from the God of creations that he should be bestowed with thousand shields (kavachas) and each kavacha can be destroyed only by a person having undergone penance for at least twelve years. Through this he thought he could not be killed by anyone. He disturbed all the people and finally went to Nara and Narayana. While Nara was fighting with Dambodhbhava, Narayana would be in penance for twelve years and a kavacha would be removed. Changing the turn between Nara and Narayana, the fight and the penance, they removed 999 kavachas of the asura. Left with the last one, the asura had fled and sought asylum with the Sun God. Karna was born to Kunthi Devi with a kavacha and a pair of earlobes. Kavacha represented the asura and earlobes the Sun God. That is why Karna was a mixed personality.

Duryodhana was an asura by name Kali in his previous birth. He prayed to Lord Siva that in his next birth he should have a steely body and should not be killed by Narayana. Out of a curse by Goddess Parvathi Devi, Duryodhana's body became weak below the hip.

Karna was known for show off and Duryodhana for jealousy and they both became friends. Lord Narayana and Nara are born as Krishna and Arjuna and were friends. Lord has overpowered the evilly friends. In our mind of Kurukshethra, we should not give room for evil thoughts to spring up, said Dr. Venkatesh in a discourse.

TULKARM

Israeli raid in occupied West Bank kills 25-year-old Palestinian man

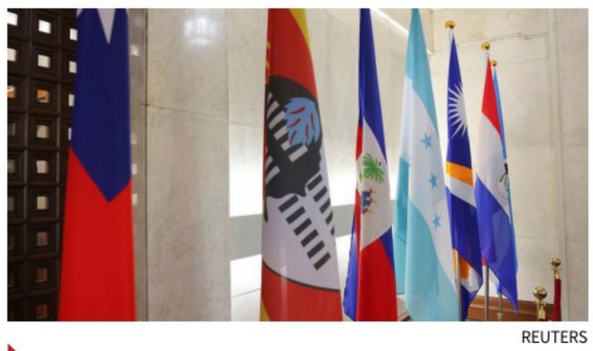


REUTERS

Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian man on Thursday, the Palestinian Health Ministry said, the first killing in the occupied West Bank during Ramadan as the Army said it targeted an armed suspect. Amir Imad Abu Khadija, 25, was shot in the head and lower limbs in Tulkarm, the statement added. AFP

TAIPEI

Taiwan recalls envoy to Honduras over Foreign Minister's China visit



REUTERS

Taiwan recalled on Thursday its ambassador to Honduras over a visit by Tegucigalpa's Foreign Minister to China. The announcement came as Honduran Foreign Minister Eduardo Enrique Reina was heading to China to hold talks on the establishment of diplomatic relations with Beijing. AFP

WASHINGTON

TikTok chief faces grilling in U.S. Congress Committee as ban looms

AFP

TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew will fight for the survival of his company in the U.S., as he faces lawmakers over the firm's alleged ties to the Chinese government. The 40-year-old Singaporean will address the House Energy and Commerce Committee over its fear that Beijing could subvert the site for spying or to push propaganda. AFP

ANKARA

Turkish Parliament commission approves Finland's NATO bid

AFP

The Turkish Parliament's foreign affairs commission approved a Bill ratifying Finland's bid to join NATO, effectively taking Helsinki another step toward membership of the trans-Atlantic pact. The Parliament's general assembly still needs to approve the Bill and is expected to do so before it closes in mid-April. REUTERS

Israel passes law protecting Netanyahu amid protests

The law would protect him from being deemed unfit to rule because of his corruption trial; it is the first of the several legislations that make up the Prime Minister's contentious judicial overhaul

Associated Press
TEL AVIV

Israel's Parliament on Thursday passed the first of several laws that make up its contentious judicial overhaul as protesters opposing the changes staged another day of demonstrations aimed at raising alarm over what they see as the country's descent toward autocracy.

Thousands of people protested throughout the country, blocking traffic on main highways and scuffling with the police in unrest that shows no sign of abating, especially as the overhaul moves ahead.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition approved legislation that would protect the Israeli leader from being deemed unfit to rule because of his corruption trial and claims of a conflict of interest surrounding his involvement in the legal changes.

Cleaved apart: Police use water canon as demonstrators take part in the "Day of Shutdown" in Tel Aviv on Thursday. REUTERS

The legal changes have split the nation between those who see the new policies as stripping Israel of its democratic ideals and those who think the country has been overrun by a liberal judiciary. The government's plan has plunged the nearly 75-year-old nation into one of its worst domestic crises.

"Either Israel will be a Jewish, democratic and progressive state or religious, totalitarian, failing, isolated and closed off. That's where they are leading us," Tzipi Livni, a former Foreign Minister and a prominent supporter of the protest movement, told Israeli Army Radio.

The opposition is rooted in broad swaths of society – including business leaders and top legal officials. Even the country's military, seen as a beacon of stability by Israel's Jewish majority, is enmeshed in the political conflict, as some reservists are refusing to show up for duty over the changes. Israel's international allies have also expressed concern.

The law to protect Mr. Netanyahu passed in an early morning vote 61-47 in Israel's 120-seat Knesset, or Parliament.

It stipulates that a Prime Minister can only be deemed unfit to rule for health or mental reasons and that only he or his government can make that decision. It comes after the country's Attorney-General has faced growing calls by Mr. Netanyahu opponents to declare him unfit to rule over his legal problems. The attorney general has already barred Mr. Netanyahu from involvement in the legal overhaul, saying he is at risk of a conflict of interest because of his corruption trial.

Following protests at High Commission, U.K. seeks to assure India on security

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

U.K. Foreign Secretary James Cleverly, on Tuesday, sought to allay security concerns of the Indian High Commission on a day when pro-Khalistan protesters, held a demonstration across India House, home of the High Commission in London. Mr Cleverly said he was in touch with the High Commission in London and the government in New Delhi on the matter.

"Acts of violence towards staff at the Indian High Commission in London are unacceptable and I have made our position clear to the High Commissioner Vikram Doraiswami," Mr. Cleverly said, adding that the U.K. government was working with the Metropolitan Police and would "ensure the safety of its staff as we did for today's demonstration".

Spill-over effect: Police push back the protesters of the Khalistan movement in London on Wednesday. AP

Dozens of police officers had guarded the High Commission on Tuesday and managed the protestors, who tried breaking the cordon, threw water bottles, flares and ink balloons across the road at the premises and the officers.

'U.K.'s indifference'

Protesters had taken down the national flag from the front of India House on Sunday, with the government accusing the U.K. authorities of "indifference" and retaliating by lowering protection for the residence of the British High Commissioner to India in New Delhi.

In Tuesday's statement, Mr. Cleverly said the U.K. would always take the security of the High Commission and other missions "extremely seriously" and said the U.K.-India relationship was "thriving" .

"We want to build deeper ties between the U.K. and India for the future," he said.

Zelensky visits frontline; 'new plan of attack in the works'

Associated Press
KYIV

Ukraine's President on Thursday made his third visit in two days to areas that have felt the brunt of Russia's war, with a trip to the southern Kherson region that was retaken from the Kremlin's forces, and as a senior Kyiv commander hinted that a brewing Ukrainian counteroffensive could come "very soon."

Ukraine took back control of the Kherson region's capital, also called Kherson. While in Kherson on Thursday, President Volodymyr Zelensky met with local security officials and inspected infrastructure damaged by Russian strikes.

On Wednesday, Mr. Zelensky visited Kharkiv, the country's second-largest city in northeastern Ukraine.

Also on Wednesday, Mr. Zelensky met with troops in the eastern Donetsk region.

In Ramzan call, Saudi and Iran officials vow to meet

Agence France-Presse
RIYADH

The Saudi and Iranian Foreign Ministers spoke by phone to mark the beginning of Ramzan, vowing to meet "soon" to implement a landmark bilateral reconciliation deal, Riyadh said on Thursday.

The Saudi Minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan, called Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and the pair "exchanged congratulations on the occasion of the holy month of Ramzan", which begins on Thursday in both countries.

"The two Ministers agreed to hold a bilateral meeting soon in order to pave the way for the reopening of embassies and consulates between the two countries."

Visitors on tourist, business visas can apply for jobs in U.S.

Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON

The move comes as thousands of highly skilled foreign-born workers in the U.S. were recently laid off

The U.S. has announced that individuals travelling to the country on a business or tourist visa – B-1 and B-2 – can apply for new jobs and even appear in interviews, but the prospective employees must ensure that they have changed their visa status before starting a new role.

B-1 and B-2 visas are generally referred to as "B visas", and they are the most common types of visa issued for a wide range of uses in the U.S. The B-1 visa is issued mainly for short-term business trips, while the B-2 visa is issued mainly travelling for tourism purposes.

In a note, and a series of tweets, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) said on Wednesday when nonimmigrant workers are laid off, they may not be aware of their options and may, in some instances, wrongly assume that they have no option but to leave the country within 60 days.

The move by the USCIS came as thousands of highly skilled foreign-born workers, including Indians, in the U.S., have lost their jobs due to a series of recent layoffs at companies like Google, Microsoft and Amazon.

Protests over pensions take a violent turn in France

Agence France-Press
PARIS

Hundreds of thousands of French workers on Thursday massed in a new show of anger against President Emmanuel Macron's pension reform, with protests turning violent in Paris and other cities.

The numbers in Paris and other cities appeared higher than in previous protest days this year after an interview by Mr. Macron where he vowed to stick to his pension reform.

The streets of Paris saw clashes between protesters and police during a big demonstration, with security forces firing teargas and charging crowds with batons.

Some 8,00,000 people marched in the capital.

Pakistan election body postpones Punjab polls; Imran Khan says Constitution violated

Press Trust of India
LAHORE

Pakistan's top election body has delayed Assembly polls in the politically crucial Punjab province by more than five months, citing the deteriorating security situation in the cash-starved country, a move criticised by former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party chairman Imran Khan.

In a late-night order issued on Wednesday, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) said that after considering the reports brought before the commission, it has concluded that it is impossible to hold and organise the elections – originally scheduled for April 30 – "honestly, justly, fairly, in a peaceful manner".

The ECP said that it "hereby withdraws the election programme and fresh schedule will be issued in due course of time with poll date on October 8." The Assemblies in Punjab and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces were dissolved on January 14 and 18 respectively by the erstwhile governments of Mr. Khan's party.

The ECP said the decision was taken after briefing of the government and different departments and intelligence agencies.

Mr. Khan condemned the ECP's move, calling it a violation of Pakistan's constitution.

"We dissolved our 2 provincial legislatures with expectation that elections would be held in 90 days as clearly given in our Constitution. We did not take this action to allow a bunch of fascists to impose a reign of terror, violating the Constitution," he said.

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in
NIT No.: CE(P)/WBSETCL/INS/2022-23/29 Date: 24.03.2023
The **Chief Engineer (Procurement)** invites e-Tender for procurement of Porcelain Disc Insulators. Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents by registering themselves on the e-tendering portal (**https://wbtenders.gov.in** or **https://etender.wb.nic.in**). Bid documents can be downloaded from **24.03.2023, 11:00 A.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **12:00 Noon, 24.04.2023**. Visit the Company's website **www.wbsetcl.in** for details.
ICA-16260(3)/2023

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : Re- e-Tender No. 94, 95, 96, 97, 98/2022-23/SE/PHC/ALP, **KIIFB -** Augmentation and Modernization of WSS to Alappuzha Municipality & other GPs-Balance Works of Mannanchery GP- Package II , Package III, Package V (Supplying and Laying distribution lines in Mararikulam South GP), Package VI (Construction of 9 LL OHSR, Supplying and Laying 280 mm HDPE Clear Water Pumping Main 620m, Supplying Laying Distribution lines in Aryad GP, Road Restoration Works) and WSS to Ala, Puliyoor, Budhanoor, Pandanad, Mulakkuzha, Venmony GPs & Chengannur Municipality - Package 3. **EMD :** Rs. Rs.5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs. Rs.19,518/-, **Last Date for Submitting Tender :** 10-04-2023, 02:00 pm, **Phone :** 0477 - 2237954. Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-1924-2022-23 PH circle, Alappuzha

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर
दूरभाष : 0294-2481538, ई-मेल : ace.uda.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
क्रमांक : अ.मु.अ./ उदय/ अंके./ 2022-23/19562-19570 दिनांक:- 3.3.2023
ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 204 - 205 / 2022-23
जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर के अधीन विभिन्न ग्रामों में "जल जीवन मिशन" के तहत पेयजल योजनाओं के कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन बिडस् इच्छुक पात्र बिडर्स ई-निविदा संख्या 204-205/2022-23 दिनांक 09.03.2023 सायं 3.00 बजे से दिनांक 10.04.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। बिड से संबंधित समस्त जानकारी प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.raj.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है। यू.बी.एन. नम्बर: —
NIT No. 204/22-23 UBN No. PHE2223WLRC14482
NIT No. 205/22-23 UBN No. PHE2223WLRC14484
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/4192/23 जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर

The Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
(A Government of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Notice Inviting Bids
NIB No. 34/2022-23 Date 20.03.2023
Bids for 'SELECTION OF SALE PROMOTER FOR SALE OF RAJASTHANI HANDMADE & HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS AT RAJASTHALI JAIPUR ON PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP BASIS'are invited from interested bidders up to 1PM (time) 20.04.2023 (date). Other particulars of the bid may be visited on procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in**) of the State and RAJSICO's website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs 2,00,00,000.
UBN : RSI2223SLOB00034
Managing Director
Raj.Samwad/C/22/16601 Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Ltd.

CENTRAL MINE PLANNING & DESIGN INSTITUTE LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Ltd.)
Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834031, Jharkhand, India
NOTICE
"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. **www.coalindia.in/** respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, **www.cmpdi.co.in**), CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in**. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**."

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत्त अलवर
सा.नि.वि. परिसर, अशोक टाकीज के पास, कचहरी रोड, अलवर
फोन- 0144-2737038, Email: sealw.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
क्रमांक: 5185 दिनांक: 10.03.2023
Short Term NIT No. 33/2022-23
Bids for construction of Road Works in 6 Package are invited from interested bidder from 13.03.2023 11.00 AM upto 22.02.2023, 6 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://sppp.raj.nic.in of the state and http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website. The approximate value of the procurements is 1469.38/- Lacs.
UBN No.: PWD2223WSOB18249, PWD2223WSOB18250, PWD2223WSOB18331, PWD2223WSOB18332, PWD2223WSOB18232, PWD2223WSOB18251.
Superintending Engineer
DIPR/C/4080/2023 PWD Circle Alwar

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DN SAGWARA, DISTT DUNGARPUR (RAJ).
No. 2893 Date : 14-03-2023
NOTICE INVITING BID NO. 31/2022-23
NIB Code : PWD2223A4704
Bids for Road Construction Work are invited from interested bidders upto 22.03.2023, 06:00 P.M. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal ("http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state. The approximate value of procurement is Rs. 783.00 Lacs.
NIB: PWD2223A4704
UBN: PWD2223WSOB18628, PWD2223WSOB18629, PWD2223WSOB18630
(गजेन्द्र कुमार लोढ़ा)
अधिशाषी अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/4271 सा.नि.वि. खण्ड सागवाडा

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र, बीकानेर
फोन नं. 0151-2226451 ईमेल- rj_acebi@nic.in
क्रमांक: अति/बी/अके.बी./2022-23/14263-90 दिनांक: 10/3/23
ई-बोली सूचना संख्या अमुअ/बी/2022-23/104-107
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल की ओर से निम्न हस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिक विभाग एवं अन्य विभागों में सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नानुसार ई-बोली द्वारा बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है। बोली प्रपत्र वेबसाईट **"www.phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in, "www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in"** व **http:/eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर दिनांक 14.03.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे से 05.04.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे तक उपलब्ध है। इस निविदा सूचना संख्या **ACEBI/2022-23/104-107** में कुल 04 कार्य है, जिनकी कुल अनुमानित लागत रु. 1527.93 लाख है। इन निविदाओं के एसपीपी पोर्टल पर यूबीएन नम्बर क्रमशः PHE2223WSOB14583, PHE2223WSOB14584, PHE2223WSOB14585, PHE2223WSOB14586 है।
(दीपक बंसल)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
DIPR/C/4088/2023 जन स्वा. अभि. विभाग, क्षेत्र- बीकानेर

SE CUM PROJECT MANAGER, WCDC, WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT & SOIL CONSERVATION, CHURU
E-mail ID :- SEWDSC.CHURU@RAJASTHAN.GOV.IN
No. F3()SE/WCDC/Churu/Tender/22-23/7099-7105
Date :- 18.03.2023
CORRIGENDUM of NOTICE INVITING BID
The BID inviting date 24.02.2023; as mentioned in NIB published vide letter No. F3()SE/WCDC/Churu/Tender/22-23/6859-65 [NIB No WSC2223A0456-YEAR 2022-23] is **21.03.2023 instead of 24.02.2023**. All other particulars will remain same.
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00729 - 289.24 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00730 - 288.90 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00731 - 281.90 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00732 - 288.97 Lacs
UBN No. WSC2223WSOB00733 - 287.24 Lacs
(Anand Singh Gehlot)
SE CUM PM, WCDC, WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT & SOIL CONSERVATION, CHURU
DIPR/C/4210

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त बून्दी
क्रमांक-केशिय/3897 दिनांक: 17.03.2023
निविदा सूचना संख्या 21/2022-23, NIB Code- PWD2223A4760
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से वृत्त बून्दी के अधीन खण्ड कार्यालय के अंतर्गत सड़क निर्माण कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त पात्र श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष से पाँच वर्ष की गारण्टी अवधि सहित निम्न कार्यों की निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट **"www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in"**, **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** तथा **http://sppp.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाइट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है। निविदा अपलोड करने की तारीख **24.03.2023** से **12.04.2023** को सायं 6:00 बजे तक।
UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18864 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18867 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18869
UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18871 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18873 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18877
UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18879 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18882 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18884
UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18886 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18888 UBN is: PWD2223WSOB18890
(वी.के. जैन)
DIPR/C/4355/2023 अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. वृत बून्दी

INBRIEF

Maruti to raise prices on input cost pressure, emission norms

Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. said it would raise prices across models come April, as high domestic inflation and new emission norms pressure the country's top carmaker. The firm did not say how much prices of cars would go up by, or which models will be impacted. Maruti joins rival Tata Motors and two-wheeler maker Hero Motocorp, who have also said they would raise prices by 5% and 2% respectively, as they grapple with increased costs to meet new emission norms. PTI

Brakes India unveils platinum brake pads for luxury cars

Brakes India introduced platinum brake pads for luxury cars under the 'TVS Apache' brand. The pads would cater to the front and rear needs of the luxury-car segment. "We are unveiling platinum brake pads with advanced friction technology and expanding our range to cater to the premium segment," said Sujit S. Nayak, VP, Friction and Aftermarket Business. "In the first phase, the brake pads are being introduced for select luxury car models," he added.

Govt. to exercise green shoe option for HAL offer-for-sale

The Finance Ministry on Thursday decided to exercise the green shoe option as the offer-for-sale (OFS) of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) has received a good response, with the issue subscribed 4.5 times on day one.

The OFS comprised base issue size of 1.75%, or 58.51 lakh shares, with an option to retain over-subscription of an equal quantum. If fully subscribed, the OFS would fetch about ₹2,800 crore to the exchequer. PTI

GST appellate tribunal may be headed by a former SC judge

New tax tribunal expected to address pile-up of unresolved legal cases, thus lowering the burden on courts and taxpayers; single-member bench will hear disputes involving less than ₹50 lakh

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Appellate Tribunal is likely to be headed by a former Supreme Court judge or a former Chief Justice of a High Court and its framework may permit the resolution of disputes involving dues or fines of less than ₹50 lakh by a single-member bench.

Amendments to the GST laws to enable the tribunal's constitution, are expected to be introduced in the Lok Sabha.

Expediting dispute resolution

A new appellate tribunal headed by ex-judges is aimed at expediting resolution of GST disputes

- Amendments to GST laws to enable tribunal's constitution expected to be introduced in LS
- Low value cases (up to ₹50 lakh) may be handled by single-member benches
- Currently, taxpayers file writ petitions burdening the High Courts

While there will be one principal bench of the Appellate Tribunal in New Delhi and several State benches, appeals pertaining to disputes of less than ₹50 lakh that don't deal with a question of law could be decided by a single-member bench, as per the norms approved by the GST Council.

In February, the Council had reached a broad consensus on the long-awaited appellate body's functioning. Tax experts said the delay in setting up the Appellate Tribunal has led to a pile-up of unresolved legal matters over the tax.

"Currently, taxpayers are filing writ petitions to directly move the High Court," said Tanushree Roy, director at Nangia Andersen. "Establishment of Appellate tribunal would result in lower burden on the courts and taxpayers."

Hindenburg shorts Jack Dorsey's Block, shares plunge

Reuters

Hindenburg Research on Thursday disclosed short positions in Block Inc. and alleged that the Jack Dorsey-led payments firm overstated its user numbers and understated its customer acquisition costs.

Shares of Block slid 20% in pre-market trading.

"Our 2-year investigation has concluded that Block has systematically taken advantage of the demographics it claims to be helping," Hindenburg said in a note on its website.

Fitch affirms Adani Ports' 'BBB-' rating, flags 'contagion risks'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Fitch Ratings, which on Thursday affirmed its 'BBB-' rating on Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZ) with a 'stable' outlook, however flagged the contagion risks that India's largest port operator faces from its parent group's weaknesses.

"Governance weaknesses, including highly concentrated shareholding structures across group entities and aggressive debt-funded investments, expose even the group's robust cash-generative businesses such as APSEZ to higher contagion risks," Fitch Ratings said.

"Fitch's governance assessment... now constrains APSEZ's rating at 'BBB-'," the rating agency said.

The affirmation of the rating reflected Fitch's view that the Hindenburg report alleging governance issues at the Adani Group "has a limited near-term impact on APSEZ's cost of funding and access at the current rating level," the credit rating firm added.

Sensex slips as banking, IT weigh on benchmark

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The Sensex declined 0.5% on Thursday to 57,925 led by a correction in banking and technology stocks. SBI fell 1.69%, Kotak Bank slid 1.49%, HCL Tech lost 1.4% and Wipro shed 1.34%.

"Although most of the other Asian indices eked out gains cheering that the U.S. Fed may go soft on rate hikes, local markets failed to follow suit," said Shrikant Chouhan, Head, Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities.

Govt. said to seek data on PSU banks' bond holdings amid global banking crisis

Reuters
MUMBAI

India has asked state-owned lenders to submit details of their bond portfolios ahead of a quarterly meeting between the government and banks this Saturday, amid the turmoil in global banks, bankers with direct knowledge of the matters told Reuters.

"The Finance Ministry has asked banks to submit data about held-to-maturity (HTM) portfolios and mark-to-market (MTM) losses in trading books to identify potential stress," said a senior banker .

It is more of a precautionary exercise because the government "does not want to be caught off-guard" if the crisis spirals further, the banker added.

Following the collapse of some U.S. regional banks, there have been concerns about lenders globally having to field possible HTM losses.

Indian bankers said they do not foresee any large MTM losses because they have strong capital levels and the rise in government bond yields has been gradual.

Capital Economics, however, said some vulnerabilities lurk. A high ratio of non-performing loans and low regulatory capital are causes for concern, Shilan Shah, deputy chief emerging markets economist at Capital Economics, wrote in a note this week.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	57,925	-0.50
US Dollar	82.20	0.47
Gold	59,350	0.98
Brent oil	77.1	1.84

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	1794.00	-21.40
Adani Ports	654.95	-2.20
Apollo Hosp	4273.05	-12.05
Asian Paints	2797.80	-42.05
Axis Bank	848.80	-0.85
Bajaj Auto	3862.95	-61.00
Bajaj Finserv	1290.00	-4.55
Bajaj Finance	5833.05	-1.15
Bharti Airtel	763.55	6.85
BPCL	348.35	-3.45
Britannia Ind	4242.70	-1.75
Cipla	869.10	5.70
Coal India	213.35	-0.60
Divis Lab	2803.10	12.45
Dr Reddys Lab	4446.95	-28.00
Eicher Motors	2927.70	-18.85
Grasim Ind	1605.95	-6.95
HCL Tech	1065.90	-15.55
HDFC	2569.85	-14.35
HDFC Bank	1563.15	-12.65
HDFC Life	498.55	1.10
Hero MotoCorp	2362.50	9.30
Hindalco	398.80	6.05
Hind Unilever	2485.10	8.75
ICICI Bank	855.45	-4.75
IndusInd Bank	1018.25	-12.90
Infosys	1374.55	-14.70
ITC	380.65	2.90
JSW Steel	667.80	5.55
Kotak Bank	1679.70	-25.45
L&T	2206.65	-7.30
M&M	1164.95	0.85
Maruti Suzuki	8353.20	100.80
NestleIndia	19044.45	224.75
NTPC	174.60	0.25
ONGC	152.80	1.25
PowerGrid Corp	222.15	-1.95
Reliance Ind	2247.80	-28.80
SBI Life	1118.65	5.55
State Bank	512.75	-8.80
Sun Pharma	977.65	5.60
TataConsumerProduct	707.15	-3.75
Tata Motors	419.15	3.05
Tata Steel	104.90	0.10
TCS	3124.65	-6.15
Tech Mahindra	1099.45	-0.15
Titan	2519.05	10.90
UltraTech Cement	7407.95	11.30
UPL	709.70	-6.45
Wipro	361.50	-4.90

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on March 23

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.06	82.38
Euro	89.22	89.57
British Pound	100.90	101.33
Japanese Yen (100)	62.50	62.75
Chinese Yuan	12.03	12.08
Swiss Franc	89.50	89.86
Singapore Dollar	61.84	62.10
Canadian Dollar	60.02	60.27
Malaysian Ringitt	18.56	18.65
Australian Dollar	55.11	55.34

Source:Indian Bank

Chalet Hotels to acquire The Dukes Retreat for ₹133 cr. EV

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Chalet Hotels Ltd. (CHL), a part of K Raheja Corp, said it had signed definitive agreements for acquisition of The Dukes Retreat, an 80-room resort in Lonavala, for an enterprise value (EV) of ₹133 crore.

Upon completion of the transaction, Chalet said it would finalise plans to expand and upgrade the property to "reposition it as an upper-upscale green, lifestyle resort."

IT risks: Accenture to axe 19,000 jobs, cuts net, revenue outlook

Reuters

Accenture Plc said on Thursday it would cut about 19,000 jobs and pared its annual revenue and profit projections, the latest sign that the worsening global economic outlook was sapping corporate spending on IT services.

The company also trimmed its annual revenue growth and profit forecasts, amid worries that recession-wary enterprises would shrink their technology budgets.

Accenture now expects annual revenue growth to be in the range of 8% to 10% in local currency, compared with 8% to 11% expected previously.

BoE follows Fed as central banks keep increasing rates amid banking turmoil

Reuters

The Bank of England on Thursday followed the Federal Reserve and the Swiss National Bank in raising interest rates, as policymakers ploughed on with their fight against inflation in the face of the instability that rocked the global banking system this month.

Investors had questioned whether the central banks could press on with tightening policy after the collapse of two U.S. lenders earlier this month triggered turmoil in banks around the globe, ensnaring Europe's 167-year-old Credit Suisse AG.

While recent market jitters have eased, they have prompted investors to adjust to more challenging economic and lending conditions ahead.

The index of top European banks was down 1.7%, with German banking giants Deutsche Bank and Commerzbank falling 2.1% and 3.2%, respectively.

The European central banks raised rates a day after the Fed logged another quarter point increase, with Fed Chair Jerome Powell saying the banking industry stress could trigger a credit crunch with "significant" implications for a slowing U.S. economy.

On Wednesday, the Federal Reserve indicated it was on the verge of pausing further increases.

Mr. Powell sought to reassure investors about the soundness of the banking system, saying that the management of Silicon Valley Bank "failed badly". "These are not weaknesses that are running broadly through the banking system," he said, adding that the takeover of Credit Suisse seemed to have been a positive outcome.

But in a key shift driven by the sudden bank failures this month, the Fed's latest policy statement no longer says "ongoing increases" in rates will likely be appropriate.

Shriram Life to ramp up rural reach to 60% by FY25

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Shriram Life Insurance has unveiled a 'Mission FY25' plan to ramp up rural penetration and double business via digital initiatives.

Under the plan, the firm would increase rural penetration from 44% to 60%, digital payments from 48% to 70%, to touch ₹1,000 crore in revenue from individual business policies, and settle 98% non-investigative claims within 6 hours as against 91% now.

Sport

Nikhat, Lovlina, Nitu and Saweety slug their way to the threshold of glory

WORLD BOXING

Y.B. Sarangi
NEW DELHI

It was a treat for the Indian fans as all the four home boxers, including World champion Nikhat Zareen (50kg) and Olympic medallist Lovlina Borgohain (75kg), recorded creditable wins to book their berths in the finals of the World women's boxing championships at the K.D. Jadhav Hall here on Thursday.

Commonwealth Games champion Nitu Ghanghas (48kg) and Asian champion Saweety Boora (81kg) were the other Indians who won.

Nitu shocked Worlds silver medallist and current Asian champion Alua Balkibekova 5-2. The hard-hitting Alua took the opening round, but the undaunted Nitu, who had lost to the same opponent in the previous edition, rallied to execute quick combinations from close range to take the next two.

Gritty display: Nitu, right, rose to the challenge against Balkibekova. R.V. MOORTHY

Nikhat, the 52kg gold medallist, raised her game to beat Colombian World and Olympic medallist Ingrit Valencia 5-0 and reach her second consecutive final in a different weight.

Utilising the experience of her victory over southpaw Ingrit in a 2019 Big Bout League match, Nikhat moved well and used an effective right straight and some combinations to claim the first two rounds before playing it safe in the third.

Lovlina outsmarted China's multiple World and Olympic medallist Li Qian 4-1. Lovlina connected punches from long range to win the first round before Li's power-packed punches gave her the second. The Indian used the double-left-jab-and-right combination in the third to ensure victory. Saweety showcased her headshots to edge out Australian Emma-Sue Greentree 4-3.

Auspicious Queen primed to deliver in Governor's Trophy on concluding day

BENGALURU: Auspicious Queen, who is in fine nick, may score an encore in the Governor's Trophy (1,600m), the feature event of the concluding day's races to be held here on Friday (March 24). There will be no false rails.

1 CHAMPION JOCKEY TROPHY (DIV. III), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 1-00 p.m.: 1. Top Dancer (1) Likith Appu 60, 2. El Alamein (9) B. Nayak 59.5, 3. Macron (11) Trevor 59.5, 4. Recreator (5) Vinod Shinde 59.5, 5. Sacred Creator (7) Srinath 59.5, 6. Empire Of Dreams (6) L.A. Rozario 59, 7. Maybach (4) Tousif 59, 8. Akasi (8) Vivek 57, 9. She's Innocent (3) Arvind K 56.5, 10. Lady Godiva (10) R. Girish 55 and 11. Phoenix Surprise (2) Zervan 55.
1. MACRON, 2. SACRED CREATOR, 3. TOP DANCER

2 GANGAVALLI PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 1-30: 1. Thunderstruck (3) I. Chisty 61, 2. Lex Luthor (5) Indrajeet S 60.5, 3. Czarevitch (9) Akshay K 60, 4. Sea Blush (12) Nazerul 60, 5. My Vision (7) Srinath 58.5, 6. Bruce Almighty (10) Neeraj 57, 7. The King N I (1) R. Pradeep 56, 8. Castaneda (6) Likith Appu 55.5, 9. Ardakan (4) Arvind K 54, 10. Striking Point (8) Abhay S 54, 11. Solid Power (2) Salman K 52.5 and 12. Rule Of Law (11) Jagadeesh 50.
1. MY VISION, 2. CZAREVITCH, 3. STRIKING POINT

3 CHAMPION JOCKEY TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 2-00: 1. Capriati (2) S. John 60, 2. Chain Of Thoughts (9) Likith Appu 59.5, 3. Foi (7) Srinath 58.5, 4. Speaking Of Stars (6) Vivek 58.5, 5. Opus One (8) L.A. Rozario 57.5, 6. Accumulate (1) Trevor 56.5, 7. Breeze Bluster (4) Vinod Shinde 56.5, 8. Burning Arrow (10) Kiran Rai 56.5, 9. My Solitaire (3) Salman K 56.5 and 10. Jersey Legend (5) Arvind K 52.5.
1. ACCUMULATE, 2. CAPRIATI, 3. FOI

4 CHAMPION JOCKEY TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Impiana (3) Likith Appu 60.5, 2. Super Ruffian (10) S. John 60, 3. King Of War (2) Trevor 59.5, 4. Appsara (8) Vinod Shinde 59, 5. Musterion (9) Srinath 59, 6. Agera (7) Akshay K 58.5, 7. Caesars Palace (5) Arvind K 58, 8. Air Display (6) Vivek 57.5, 9. Belvedere (4) Neeraj 57 and 10. Aquamatic (1) L.A. Rozario 56.
1. KING OF WAR, 2. AQUAMATIC, 3. SUPER RUFFIAN

5 CHAMPION TRAINER TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 3-00: 1 The Inheritor (3) Srinath 60.5, 2. Devils Magic (8) Trevor 60, 3. Starry Wind (1) L.A. Rozario 57.5, 4. Extraordinary (11) Sai Kiran 57, 5. Mystic Eye (9) Zervan 55.5, 6. Classic Charm (7) Darshan 54.5, 7. Cash Out (12) Akshay K 54, 8. Lauterbrunnen (4) Kiran Rai 54, 9. Striking Memory (6) B. Darshan 53.5, 10. Tiger Returns (10) Likith Appu 53.5, 11. Scribbling Hopper (5) Ajeet K 53 and 12. Secretsuperstar (2) Arvind K 52.5.
1. DEVILS MAGIC, 2. THE INHERITOR, 3. MYSTIC EYE

6 LEADING OWNER TROPHY (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 3-30: 1. Automatic (3) L.A. Rozario 62, 2. Moon's Blessing (7) Trevor 61.5, 3. De Villiers (4) Akshay K 60, 4. Last Wish (9) Suraj 56.5, 5. Shubankar (1) Srinath 56.5, 6. Del Mar (8) Arvind K 53.5, 7. Prince Abir (2) Abhay S 53, 8. Elusive Girl (5) Jagadeesh 50 and 9. Lycurgus (6) I. Chisty 50.
1. LAST WISH, 2. MOON'S BLESSING, 3. DE VILLIERS

7 GOVERNOR'S TROPHY (1,600m), 3-y-o, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Fearless Joey (5) Kiran Naidu 57, 2. Granpar (4) Neeraj 57, 3. Lionel (3) Trevor 57, 4. Tiger Shark (6) Zervan 57, 5. Auspicious Queen (1) Suraj 55.5 and 6. Miracle Mary (2) Akshay K 55.5.
1. AUSPICIOUS QUEEN, 2. GRANPAR

8 LEADING STUD TROPHY (1,100m), rated 40 to 65, 4-30: 1. Michigan Melody (6) Indrajeet S 62.5, 2. Kensington Court (9) L.A. Rozario 62, 3. Anakin (5) B. Dharshan 60, 4. Eternal Princess (4) M. Prabhakaran 56, 5. Archway (2) Akshay K 55, 6. Siege Courageous (7) Trevor 55, 7. Ultimate Striker (8) Vinod Shinde 53.5, 8. Schafenberg (3) Tousif 52.5, 9. Star Admiral (1) Likith Appu 52 and 10. Roman Power (10) Ajeet K 51.
1. SIEGE COURAGEOUS, 2. KENSINGTON COURT, 3. MICHIGAN MELODY

9 GOOD-BYE PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Antilope (8) S. John 62.5, 2. Memorable Time (4) Trevor 62, 3. Ultimate Chance (10) L.A. Rozario 62, 4. Sekhmet (9) Rayan 61, 5. Mega Success (5) Vivek 60, 6. Cinco De Mayo (11) Likith Appu 59, 7. The Intruder (3) R. Pradeep 58.5, 8. Dawn Rising (12) B. Dharshan 57, 9. Lightning Flame (6) Srinath 56, 10. Paradise Beckons (1) Salman K 56, 11. Perfect Halo (2) Rajesh K 56 and 12. Jai Vikram (7) Jagadeesh 53.
1. MEMORABLE TIME, 2. ANTILOPE, 3. ULTIMATE CHANCE

Day's best: SIEGE COURAGEOUS
Double: LAST WISH – AUSPICIOUS QUEEN
Jkt: 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9; Tr (i): 1, 2 and 3; (ii): 4, 5 and 6; (iii): 7, 8 and 9.

KEEP AN EYE

IPL franchises given guidelines to manage workload, says Rohit

India skipper Rohit Sharma said the team management has given the IPL sides a few guidelines to manage the workload. "It's all up to the franchises. They own the players. We have given some indications to the teams but it is up to the franchise and, most importantly, the players. They have to take care of their own body."

MIXED TIDINGS

Bairstow to miss entire IPL, Livingstone cleared: report

England's Jonny Bairstow will miss the IPL this year as the ECB refused to grant him an NOC. Bairstow is recovering from a leg injury sustained in September. However, ECB has cleared Liam Livingstone, who is returning from injury. Punjab Kings had bought Livingstone and Bairstow for ₹11.50 crore and ₹6.75 crore respectively.

CLINICAL

Hasan Mahmud and openers star in Bangladesh's thumping win

Speedster Hasan Mahmud's maiden five-for set up Bangladesh's 10-wicket win over Ireland in the third ODI at Sylhet on Thursday. **The scores**: Ireland in 28.1 overs (Campher 36, Tucker 28, Mahmud 5/32, Taskin 3/26) lost to Bangladesh 102/0 in 13.1 overs (Liton 50 n.o., Tamim 41 n.o.). Bangladesh won series 2-0.

MAJOR DECISION

Transgender athletes barred from female track and field events: Coe

Transgender women will no longer be allowed to compete in female track and field events regardless of their levels of testosterone, World Athletics president Sebastian Coe said on Thursday. The doping ban on Russia was also lifted although its athletes remain barred from competition because of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

MI and Warriorz face off for a spot in title clash

The former will hope that its inspirational captain Harmanpreet produces another big knock while the latter will bank on skipper Healy and its collective spin power led by Ecclestone

WPL

P.K. Ajith Kumar
NAVI MUMBAI

Game time: Healy and Harmanpreet will try to outsmart each other for a berth in final. SPORTZPICS/WPL

Three teams, two matches. The Women's Premier League has finally come down to that, after 20 days of intense action.

Mumbai Indians and UP Warriorz face off at the D.Y. Patil Stadium here on Friday in the Eliminator, to determine which side will earn the right to take on Delhi Capitals in the final. Capitals moved straight into Sunday's final after finishing on top of the table in the league phase, a double round-robin affair involving five teams.

At just past the halfway stage, MI had looked the likeliest team to take that direct berth: it had won all its five games. Its great run was stopped by Warriorz, at this very venue.

The formidable bunch of Warriorz spinners had played a big role in MI's first defeat in the tournament. Sophie Ecclestone, the Word No. 1 T20I bowler from England had done the most damage in that game. The left-arm spinner was well backed by the off-spin of Deepti Sharma and Rajeswhari Gayakwad, another slow left-armer.

There are even more options for Warriorz in the spin department, headed by the purple-cap wearing Ecclestone. The world's No. 1 T20I batter, Tahlia McGrath, also sports the Warriorz jersey. She has four fifties from seven innings. The MI attack will have to contend with more of the Australian batting might in the form of captain Alyssa Healy and the hard-hitting Grace Harris (if she is fit).

MI will be hoping that its inspirational captain Harmanpreet Kaur produces another big knock in another crucial match. Openers Hayley Matthews and Yastika Bhatia and all-rounders Amelia Kerr and Nat Sciver-Brunt too have had some good outings.

MI should be pleased that left-arm spinner Saika Ishaque has returned to her wicket-taking habit. Kerr's leg-spin has been rather effective, as has Matthews' off-spin. Seamers Sciver-Brunt and Issy Wong have been amongst the wickets, too.

Match starts at 7.30 p.m.

India could dominate women's cricket in five to 10 years: Gardner

P.K. Ajith Kumar
NAVI MUMBAI

Gardner. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Life has changed considerably for Ashleigh Gardner since she first came to India as a 19-year-old. Back in 2016, she led a women's team of Indigenous Australian cricketers for a first-ever overseas tour.

Seven years later, she is one of the superstars in women's cricket. She became the Women's Premier League's joint costliest overseas player when she was signed up by the Adani Sportsline-owned Gujarat Giants.

"When I came to India with the Indigenous squad, it was challenging conditions and it was also challenging to captain a team that I didn't know well," said Gardner in an exclusive interview to *The Hindu*. "I was one of the youngest players but (coach) Shelley Nitschke saw some sort of leadership capabilities in me."

Gardner, only the second Australian Indigenous female cricketer to play for the country, is a strong advocate of the community. She is proud of what Indigenous cricketers, like Jason Gillespie, Scott Boland, Faith Thomas and herself, have done for Australia's Indigenous population.

"I guess it is important for young Indigenous kids to have role models for us to play at the highest level," said the off-spinning all-rounder, who was the player of the tournament in Australia's winning campaign at the T20 World Cup in South Africa last month. "When having conversations with other players like Scott, you don't probably realise the impact you are actually having out there. There is more to cricket than cricket. And we are representing more than our families."

About the WPL, she said she was proud of being a part of its inaugural edition. "As international cricketers we have been waiting for this competition to start off," she said. "Now is the right time."

She believes the WPL could transform Indian women's cricket. "In five to 10 years, I think India could dominate women's cricket, but I might be retired by then, so I won't have to fight them at their highest," she smiled. "It is pleasing to see so many young Indian talents, like Shreyanka Patil of RCB; she is a young off-spinner and handy batter as well."

All eyes on Rahul as Super Giants look to put the past behind them

IPL-16 COUNTDOWN

Lalith Kalidas

The bitterness of the IPL 2022 Eliminator defeat may have lingered for a while, but given Lucknow Super Giants' new signings, it looks like the team has moved on.

Super Giants' maiden campaign could have ended better than the fourth-place finish they managed after a 14-run loss to Royal Challengers Bangalore in the playoffs.

K.L. Rahul's slow-paced half-century during a steep 208-run chase proved a big blow. While the captain pointed at sloppy fielding as the reason for the reverse, mentor Gautam Gambhir's ice-cold stare directed at him told a different story.

Baffling approach

It is baffling why Rahul, a batter blessed with a wide repertoire, adopts a cautious approach while opening in T20s. During Super Giants' jersey launch earlier this month, the Karnataka batter explained his view on strike rates.

"Strike-rate is over-rated. It depends upon demand. If you chase 140, you don't need to go with a 200 strike-rate, it depends upon the prevailing situation," Rahul said.

It will be interesting to see how the skipper goes about his business this season.

The team management, too, has made things easier for him. In the lead-up to the auction, the Lucknow outfit released a chunk of overseas seamers besides top batters Evin Lewis and Manish Pandey.

The team splurged ₹16 crore on adding a powerhouse in the middle-order – Nicholas Pooran – and roped in overseas all-rounders Romario Shepherd and Daniel Sams for flexibility and depth.

While the Super Giants played only in Mumbai last season, they will have their task cut out in the home-away format after shifting base home – Ekana Stadium in Lucknow – this year. The average total at Ekana, which is yet to host an IPL game, is a modest 140.2.

Lucknow's batting firepower – Rahul, Quinton de Kock, Deepak Hooda, Pooran and Marcus Stoinis – will look to dominate even in these bowler-friendly conditions.

Dream pace trio

Super Giants also has a dream pace trio – England quick Mark Wood, Avesh Khan and left-armer Mohsin Khan – to utilise the helpful Lucknow pitch. Mohsin had an impressive 2022 season, picking up 14 wickets from nine games.

The in-form Jaydev Unadkat can lend experience and expertise while veteran Amit Mishra adds to the spin foundation of Ravi Bishnoi, Krunal Pandya and K. Gowtham.

Lucknow has preferred an all-rounder-heavy approach instead of populating its line-up with Indian batting back-ups. Ayush Badoni and Manan Vohra offer exciting options with the bat. Saurashtra all-rounder Prerak Mankad can also pack a punch.

The Super Giants dugout is filled with proven and talented players. How captain Rahul steers the innings as well as the ship will determine its fate.

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS

Game-Changer

A tally of 451 runs in 15 matches, while floating through the Super Giants middle-order last season, boosted Deepak Hooda's confidence so much that he went on to score a T20I hundred for India and also made the cut for the T20 World Cup. Hooda's handy off-spin is a bonus in India's limited-overs batting riches. If the 27-year-old repeats his heroics for Lucknow in IPL-16, it will be a win-win situation for Super Giants as well as India, with the ODI and T20 World Cups lined up this year and next.

The Dugout

K.L. Rahul (Capt.), Manan Vohra, Quinton de Kock, Nicholas Pooran, Ayush Badoni, Karan Sharma, Deepak Hooda, Krunal Pandya, Marcus Stoinis, K. Gowtham, Kyle Mayers, Romario Shepherd, Daniel Sams, Prerak Mankad, Swapnil Singh, Yudhvir Charak, Avesh Khan, Mohsin Khan, Mark Wood, Ravi Bishnoi, Yash Thakur, Amit Mishra, Mayank Yadav, Jaydev Unadkat and Naveen-ul-Haq.

SUPER GIANTS' 2023 FIXTURES

April 1	vs. DC	7.30 p.m.	Lucknow
April 3	vs. CSK	7.30 p.m.	Chennai
April 7	vs. SRH	7.30 p.m.	Lucknow
April 10	vs. RCB	7.30 p.m.	Bengaluru
April 15	vs. PBKS	7.30 p.m.	Lucknow
April 19	vs. RR	7.30 p.m.	Jaipur
April 22	vs. GT	3.30 p.m.	Lucknow
April 28	vs. PBKS	7.30 p.m.	Mohali
May 1	vs. RCB	7.30 p.m.	Lucknow
May 4	vs. CSK	3.30 p.m.	Lucknow
May 7	vs. GT	3.30 p.m.	Ahmedabad
May 13	vs. SRH	3.30 p.m.	Hyderabad
May 16	vs. MI	7.30 p.m.	Lucknow
May 20	vs. KKR	7.30 p.m.	Kolkata

How Smith's men brought the Indian home juggernaut to a halt

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Creditable: Smith achieved what no captain could since 2019. AFP

India-Australia ODI series in numbers

BATTING	M	Runs	HS	Avg.	SR	50s
Marsh	3	194	81	97.00	131.08	2
Rahul	3	116	75*	58.00	75.81	1

BOWLING	M	Wkts	BBI	Avg.	Econ	5W
Starc	3	8	5/53	21.12	6.07	1
Siraj	3	5	3/29	20.60	6.57	0

At the start of the new year, with nine ODIs scheduled at home for India, it was clear these games would play a crucial role in helping the team firm up its combinations ahead of the World Cup later this year. After breezing past Sri Lanka and New Zealand, India hit a wall against Australia and lost a one-day series at home for the first time in four years on Wednesday.

In Mumbai, the Men in Blue, led by the pacers, restricted the Aussies to a modest 188. K.L. Rahul and Ravindra Jadeja took the side home after a poor start.

The top-order collapsed again in Visakhapatnam against Mitchell Starc's swing and pace as Australia fought back to level the series with a ten-wicket win.

In the final ODI, chasing 270, India looked on course for victory during large parts of the chase until some questionable approach, in going after the two spinners when they were about to bowl out, spelt doom for Rohit's men.

Still, a 7-2 scoreline over the last three months shows depth in the squad despite missing at least three first-choice players: Jasprit Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna and Shreyas Iyer. One bright spot has been Kuldeep Yadav, who has cemented his place as the leading wrist-spinner with 15 wickets in eight games, while the form of Suryakumar Yadav has become a huge concern.

After the series loss, skipper Rohit Sharma said: "The last game particularly, and today (Wednesday) as well, these two games are the ones where we can understand what we need to do against quality opposition," said Rohit.

"It is about adapting and understanding your method. Eventually, you have to score runs, no matter how the pitches are and what the bowler is trying to do. You must try and put them under pressure and can't just let the bowlers bowl in one particular spot," he added.

For Australia, Mitchell Marsh set up the 2-1 win as he revelled in opening the batting and took on the bowlers by taking advantage of the field restrictions in the PowerPlay.

Steve Smith, who has been leading the side since the third Test in Indore, which Australia won, has been impressive as a captain even though he failed as a batter.

Even as India was cruising to victory in the decider, Smith used his spinners Adam Zampa and Ashton Agar smartly. He was brave enough to hold back Zampa till late in the match, and the leggie removed Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja in his last two overs.

After starting the tour poorly with defeats in the first two Tests, Australia finished its India campaign strongly, becoming the only side to beat India twice at home in the last seven years in an ODI series.

INBRIEF

Daryl Mitchell, Amelia Kerr win big at NZC Awards

New Zealand all-rounder Daryl Mitchell on Thursday won the prestigious Sir Richard Hadlee Medal at the New Zealand Cricket Awards for his standout performances in the year, especially in Test cricket. Mitchell, who also won the Redpath Cup for men's First Class batting, was recognised for a stand-out year across the board, but particularly at Test level. All-rounder Amelia Kerr won the inaugural Debbie Hockley Medal. Kerr was also named the ANZ Women's T20I Player of the Year.

UEFA launches probe into Barcelona refereeing scandal

European football's governing body UEFA said on Thursday that it was launching an investigation into claims that Barcelona paid for favourable refereeing decisions. UEFA said its ethics and disciplinary inspectors would probe "a potential violation of UEFA's legal framework by FC Barcelona in connection with the so-called 'Caso Negreira'," referring to the Spanish league's former refereeing chief Jose Maria Enriquez Negreira.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Jio Cinema App, 5 a.m.

WPL: Eliminator, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

Afghanistan vs Pakistan: 1st T20I, FanCode, 9.30 p.m.

Euro 2024 European Qualifiers: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10.30 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Rhythm and Varun help India bag mixed air pistol silver

Rudrankksh and Narmada fetch bronze in mixed air rifle event; India is currently second with a gold, a silver and two bronzes, behind China

ISSF WORLD CUP

Santadeep Dey
BHOPAL

Not meeting the qualification cut-off score during pistol events is something Rhythm Sangwan would hardly be able to relate to. The 19-year-old has been in a league of her own, gunning down targets with considerable ease.

Hence, it was just a matter of time before she moved on from the blip that saw her finish 13th (572) in individual air pistol.

On Thursday, paired with Varun Tomar in the 10m air pistol mixed team event, Rhythm helped India win its first silver of the ISSF World Cup here.

Also, the 10m air rifle duo of World champion Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil and R. Narmada Nithin clinched the bronze. India is currently second with a gold, a silver and two bronzes behind China which has three golds and two bronzes.

Team effort: Rhythm and Varun complemented each other well to grab silver. A.M. FARUQUI

Momentary lapse

Although Varun's contribution in the qualifier was immense – dropping only seven points – he seemed a completely different man in the gold medal fixture, shooting 10 nines in his 14 shots.

A worried Munkhbayar Dorjsuren, India's foreign pistol coach, had to intervene with an official time-out.

Varun's drop in form meant Rhythm was under immense pressure. However, the 10s kept coming and at one point it did seem India would manage a thrilling comeback, even though it trailed 14-4 after the ninth series.

China's Qian Wei and Liu Jinyao finally called checkmate with the scoreline locked at 17-11. The bronze went to the second Chinese team in the field.

Earlier in the day, the Indians went up against another Chinese duo in Qiongyue Zhang and Haonan Yu in the 10m air rifle mixed team's bronze medal clash. Rudrankksh, who hardly puts a foot wrong these days, ably supported by Chennai's Narmada Nithin put the visitors to the sword.

Great going

The duo never dropped below 10.0, even shooting a 10.9 each in the fifth series. The audience loved every moment and showed their appreciation with a standing ovation as Rudrankksh, who never hit below 10.3 in the 12 series, raised his rifle to celebrate the 16-8 win.

Meanwhile, China thrashed Hungary 16-2 to take the gold.

The results:

10m air pistol mixed team: 1. China-2 (Qian Wei & Liu Jinyao); 2. India-2 (Rhythm Sangwan & Varun Tomar); 3. China-1 (Li Xue & Hu Pengqi).

10m air rifle mixed team: 1. China-1 (Huang Yuting & Sheng Lihao); 2. Hungary (Eszter Denes & Istvan Peni); 3. India-2 (Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil & R. Narmada Nithin).

Srikanth and Mithun exit in the second round

Press Trust of India
BASEL

Hong Kong's Cheuk Yiu Lee, who dashed the hopes of Lakshya Sen in the first round, took out K. Srikanth 22-20, 21-17 in the second round of the Swiss Open here on Thursday.

In another round of 16 match, Chia Hao Lee of Chinese Taipei got the better of Mithun Manjunath 21-19, 21-10.

On Wednesday, H.S. Prannoy beat All England finalist Shi Yu Qi of China 21-17, 19-21, 21-17 to make the last-16 and fourth seed P.V. Sindhu made a positive start to her title defence, beating Jenjira Stadelmann of Switzerland 21-9, 21-16.

The results:

Men: Second round: Cheuk Yiu Lee (HK) bt K. Srikanth 22-20, 21-17; Chia Hao Lee (Tpe) bt Mithun Manjunath 21-19, 21-10.

First round: H.S. Prannoy bt Shi Yu Qi (Chn) 21-17, 19-21, 21-17; Christo Popov (Fra) bt Kirans George 21-14, 21-15.

Women: First round: P.V. Sindhu bt Jenjira Stadelmann (Sui) 21-9, 21-16; Yvonne Li (Ger) bt Aakarshi Kashyap 21-15, 21-17.

Mixed doubles: First round: Hee Yong Kai Terry & Tan Wei Han Jessica (Sgp) bt Rohan Kapoor & Sikki Reddy 20-22, 21-19, 21-15.

RBI surmounts TN's challenge; PSPB men rule the roost

NATIONAL TT

K. Keerthivasan
JAMMU

Riding on Diya Chitale's brilliance, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) scripted a thrilling 3-2 win over Tamil Nadu in the women's final of the UTT-84th senior National and Inter-State table tennis championships here on Thursday.

As expected, Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) men won a 26th title with a 3-1 victory over Railways.

After winning the first tie, Diya returned to win the crucial fifth rubber against Kowshika to enable her team to bag the crown.

The TN women were on a high after the upset win over defending champion PSPB the other day. But even RBI wouldn't have thought that TN would give such a tough fight especially after losing the first two matches in the summit clash.

Diya put it across S. Yashini in five games, while Ayhika Mukherjee edged past Kowshika as RBI took a 2-0 lead.

Hitting back

But 17-year-old B. Kavyasree, playing with great composure and even better aggression, outwitted a struggling Sreeja Akula in four games to keep TN in the fray. Yashini, who had not lost a match before the final, returned to beat Ayhika and force the contest to the decider.

Champion paddlers: The RBI and PSPB teams with their reward. K. KEERTHIVASAN

The fifth match was a cliffhanger. Kowshika, with her mix of backhand blocks and forehand topspin, and Diya, in possession of an excellent forehand topspin, put the sparse audience on tenterhooks before the latter emerged triumphant.

TN had last won the title in 1991-92 in Mumbai and finished runner-up in Jamshedpur in '94.

The results (finals): Men: PSPB bt Railways 3-1 (Manav Thakkar bt Ronit Bhanja 11-5, 11-9, 11-8; G. Sathiyan bt Anirban Ghosh 11-5, 11-9, 11-4; Sanil Shetty lost to Akash Pal 2-11, 15-13, 9-11, 12-10,8-11; Sathiyan bt Ronit 11-7, 11-5, 12-10).

Women: RBI bt Tamil Nadu 3-2 (Diya Chitale bt S. Yashini 11-4, 3-11, 11-5, 7-11, 11-7; Ayhika Mukherjee bt V. Kowshika 11-6, 20-18, 11-8; Sreeja Akula lost to B. Kavyasree 8-11, 11-8, 11-13, 8-11; Ayhika lost to Yashini 8-11, 11-4, 11-8, 7-11, 7-11; Diya bt Kowshika 13-11, 9-11, 11-4, 11-6).

Lop-sided match-ups produce predictable results

DELHI OPEN CHESS

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

With the top boards featuring players separated by over 1000 rating points, results came on expected lines in the opening round of the ₹46 lakh Delhi International Open chess tournament on Thursday.

S.P. Sethuraman and Aravindh Chithambaram, seeded one and two, cruised to expected triumphs over teenaged Tapojit Majumdar and M. Giridharan at the Nehru Stadium. Tapojit resigned in 25 moves just when Sethuraman was preparing to launch a decisive queenside offensive, while Giridharan found himself in a checkmating net and gave up after 26 moves.

Quickest winner

Georgia's Levan Pantsulaia, the strongest overseas challenger and seeded three, needed 32 moves to down Aswin Reddy before Russian Mikhail Kobalia emerged as the quickest winner on the top-10 boards by beating Yatee Kothari in just 21 moves.

Teenage Russian Volodar Muruzin checkmated T. V. Subramanian in 32 moves while under-10 Heet Baldawa kept Polish Grandmaster Michal Krasenkow busy for 38 moves before resigning.

Former National champion M.R. Lalit Babu, the third Indian among the top-10 seeds, overpowered Aditya Jain in 31 moves for a winning start.

The first 28 boards produced predictable winners until a walkover from a higher-rated player broke the sequence.

It's important to understand that there's no one way to get medals: Nieva

BOXING

Y.B. Sarangi
NEW DELHI

A World boxing championship not only showcases a wide variety of boxers from various nationalities and cultures, but it also presents different styles practised across countries and regions.

The ongoing World women's championship is also an amalgamation of boxers fighting in different ways with an ultimate goal of prevailing over their opponents. "You can see tendencies in different countries and different regions but there is always a lot of strategy in play. Uzbekistan has more physical play, Cubans display more dancing and boxing from a long-range," former high performance director of Indian boxing, Santiago Nieva, who is now coaching the Australian National team, told *The Hindu*.

Hailing from Sweden with Argentine roots, Nieva has worked in at least four continents to understand that reading one's opponent is what matters. "You've to look at individual opponents - whether they're closer to your face or are boxing more attackingly or defensively and what range they like to box in.

"First, you look at this and then the situations and tactics in the bout. Historically, Australia is a country with tough boxers - many of them professional champions, including Jeff Fenech. But that doesn't translate much into this team.

Nieva. FILE PHOTO

"The important thing is to be open-minded and understand that there is not only one way to get those medals. Cubans have their way, but the Kazakhs have their way. So do Thailand and Britain."

Elements of boxing from one country travel to another through coaches like Nieva or Cuban Raul Angel Fernandez Liranza, who is currently coaching the Chinese.

India too recruited coaches from Cuba, France, Sweden and Italy in the past and now two from Ireland.

Getting used to different styles is an important aspect for a boxer.

The French team, which has more experience of boxing with other European countries, participated in a multi-nation training camp here prior to the World championship.

"We don't normally train with countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and India. During this camp, we trained with different countries," said French coach Stephane Cottalorda.

Five players out as virus hits Dutch squad

Associated Press
ZEIST (NETHERLANDS)

Five players in the Netherlands squad to face World Cup finalist France in the European Championship qualifier have been sent home after contracting a viral infection.

Liverpool forward Cody Gakpo, Bayern Munich defender Matthijs de Ligt along with Sven Botman, Joey Veerman and Bart Verbruggen all left the training camp, the Dutch federation said on Thursday. It did not elaborate on the virus.

The departures were another blow to coach Ronald Koeman ahead of the first match of his second stint in charge of the national team. Already, Barcelona midfielder Frenkie de Jong and Ajax winger Steven Bergwijn dropped out due to injuries.

Koeman called up Bayern Munich midfielder Ryan Gravenberch, Vitesse Arnhem's Kjell Scherpen and Inter Milan defender Stefan de Vrij as replacements for the five ill players. The Netherlands plays France on Friday in a Group B qualifier before returning home to take on Gibraltar on Monday in Rotterdam.

Elvira's sizzling 63 puts him in the van

GOLF

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Manuel Elvira grabbed the first round lead in the Duncan Taylor Black Bull Challenge at the KGA course here with an excellent nine-under 63. It was the lowest round in a professional event at the KGA.

The 26-year-old from Spain made ten birdies and a single bogey on a hot and dry day. Elvira holds a one stroke lead over nearest rival, Welshman Oliver Farr.

"Everything was on point with my game today. I put myself in position off the tee, hit some really good approach shots and then managed to hole my putts and make some birdies," Elvira said.

What a start! Elvira produced the lowest round in a professional event at the KGA. GETTY IMAGES

Best Indians

Aman Raj and M. Dharma – both tied-third at five-under – were the best Indian performers. Aman, fresh from a win on the PGTI earlier this month, made a bogey on the first hole but came back strongly with six birdies.

Mari Muthu, Aryan Roopa Anand, Sunhit Bishnoi, Angad Cheema, Aadil Bedi and Sudhir Sharma were the six Indians in tied 12th place with scores of 68.

India's Mohammad Sanju produced a hole-in-one on the fourth hole during his round of 72 that placed him tied 86th.

The scores (top three):

63: Manuel Elvira (Esp); **64:** Oliver Farr (Wal); **67:** Henric Sturehed (Swe), Matteo Manassero (Ita), Velten Meyer (Ger), Aman RAJ, M. Dharma, Joel Sjoholm (Swe), S. Mazzoli (Ita), Steven Brown (Eng), Ashley Chesters (Eng).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

BFC rallies to down Chennaiyin

Bengaluru FC registered a 2-1 come-from-behind win over Chennaiyin FC in the Hero Second Division League at the Bangalore Football Stadium on Thursday.

It was BFC's second win in three games and the club is now level on points with table-topper Golden Threads FC (7 points), only behind on goal difference.

The result:

Bengaluru FC 2 (Damaitphang Lyngdoh 56, Satendra Singh Yadav 45+3) bt Chennaiyin FC 1 (Gulab Rauth Himbahadur 13).

BTM FC edges out Income Tax FC

BTM FC recorded a narrow 2-1 win over Income Tax FC 2-1 in the BDFA A-division football league here on Thursday.

The results:

BTM FC 2 (Vrishabh Katapadi Kamath 9, Vedant Maneesh Satarkar 44) bt Income Tax FC 1 (Vishnu Prasad 5).

On Tuesday: BTM FC 1 (Suyash Thomas Koshy 65) drew with DYES FC 1 (Cyril Jones 79); RWF FC 1 (S. Rajesh 52) bt Blitz FC 0.

Chess camp

Champions Chess Academy will conduct a summer camp from April 1 to 30 at Krishna Garden, Rajarajeshwari Nagar.

For details, call: Balakrishna Prabhu 9845466416.

Sab ka Saath
Sab ka Vikas

NAVA BHARATH FOR
NAVA KARNATAKA

Department of Cooperation
In Coordination with Other Departments
Inauguration of various Central and State Government sponsored schemes and Beneficiaries Convention

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Government of India

Date: 24.03.2023 **Time:** 12.00 PM
Venue: Kommaghatta Ground, Kengeri Satelite Town, Bengaluru

Inauguration
Sri Amit Shah
Hon'ble Minister for Home Affairs and Co-operation, Government of India

Disbursement of Cheques to Beneficiaries
Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka

Disbursement of Cheques to Self Help Groups
Sri B.S. Yediyurappa,
Hon'ble former Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Presided by
Sri S.T. Somashekhar
Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation,
Government of Karnataka.

Cooperation Department Schemes

- The scheme of lending farmers through Cooperative institutions crop loan at 0 percent up to Rs. 3 lakh and medium and long term loans at 3% up to Rs. 10 lakh is being implemented. Under this scheme during 2022-23, against the target of **33** lakhs farmers and Rs. **24,000** Crore loan Amount, about Rs. **18505.00** crores have been disbursed to **34.34** lakhs farmers. It has been announced in the 2023-24 budget that the limit under 0 percent interest subsidy scheme will be increased from Rs. **3** lakhs toRs. **5** lakhs.
- The State government has allocated and released Rs.**1078.02** crores as interest subsidy to cooperative institutions on behalf of farmers who have paid the loan in time.
- The scheme of lending loans to Self help Groups for 0% and 4% interest an amount of Rs.**1644.08** crore have been already disbursed to 38616 SHGs and Rs. **96.61** crore of interest subsidy has been released by govt.
- Under Loan waiver scheme, **17.37** lakh farmers are eligible for the waiver of Rs. **8155.00** crore and a total of Rs. **7987.00** crore has been disbursed to 17.06 lakh farmers out of this, our government has released Rs. **5387.00** crore.
- Under the **"Agri Infra Fund"** scheme, NABARD has sanctioned Rs.**320.91** crore on behalf of 913 PACS to DDCC banks to convert PACS as Multi Service Centres. DCC banks have released Rs.**158.02** crore as first instalment to 706 PACS.
- All Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the state are being computerised at a cost of Rs.**235.56** crore under Central Sector Scheme by providing common software and in the first phase tender have been called for procurement of hardware for 5491 PACS.
- It has been announced in the 2023-24 budget to give additional subsidy of Rs.**10000/-** under the new scheme **'Bhoo siri'** for Kisan Credit Card holders. This would facilitate the farmers to purchase seeds, fertilizer, pesticides and other farm inputs in times of exigencies. The state will contribute Rs. **2500/-** and NABARD will provide Rs. **7500/-.**
- Laying of Foundation Stone of **"Sahakara Samruddhi Soudha"** at RCS Office.

Programmes of other different Departments

- Inauguration of New building and Administrative office of BDCC Bank, Bengaluru.
- Inauguration of MLCP (Multi lever Car Parking) Complex at Yeshwanthpura APMC Yard
- Inauguration of New Horticulture Shopping outlet at Dasanpura APMC Yard
- Inauguration of Flower Market at Binnipete, AMPC premises
- Inauguration of Medical Oxygen Plant at ESI Hospital at Indiranagar, Bangalore, sponsored by KMF.
- Inauguration of Packing Materials Manufacturing Plant at Challaghatta constructed by KMF
- Inauguration of Cattle Feed Plant at S.Gollahalli village, Sadali Hobli Chikkabalalpura Dist. constructed by KMF
- Inauguration of Cattle feed Plant at Piriyapatna, Mysuru constructed by KMF
- Inauguration of Nandini Students Hostel at Belagavi Dairy premisies constructed by KMF
- Inauguration of ERP (Enterprises Resource Planning) of all activities of KMF & its units.
- Inauguration of Group Captive Solar Power Plant of KMF & their unions
- Inauguration of providing Kaveri Drinking water pipeline and underground Drainage System Civil work at 14 Villages encompassing Nadaprabhu Kempegowda BDA Layout.
- Inauguration of providing Drinking Water Civil work from Manchanabele Dam to Kumbalgodu and Surrounding 73 villages under Jaljeevan Mission, Multi villages Drinking Water Project
- Inauguration of Kaggalipura Talghattapura and Tavarekere Police Station New buildings
- Inauguration of underground Drainage System Civil work at Banashankari 6th Stage, BDA Layout
- Distribution of Cheques to Beneficiaries of various schemes of Cooperation Department

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Hon'ble M L A & Chairman
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